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UVic student plans to walk Island

by Suzanne Beaubien

Most students' summer plans usually involve work, summer school or travel.

But UVic student Peter Bickel Janes is taking a much less-travelled road – literally. Janes plans to walk the length of Vancouver Island, a roughly 600-kilometre journey.

A third-year anthropology and environmental studies student, Janes will start his journey at Cape Scott, the northern tip of the island, and continue south to Victoria, in what he estimates will be a two-month trip. As far as Janes knows, no one has ever walked the length of the island. For him, the trip represents more than just a physical challenge.

"I just want people to take a look at their lives and assess what it is that they're doing and planning on doing from the perspective of the larger context, the larger environment that supports us all," said Janes.

Janes will avoid roads and highways. His goal is to walk 10 km a day through untraveled backcountry.

He hopes reaching his personal goal will inspire others to critically reflect on themselves and make positive changes.

"We're all part of a larger system and through my experience, I've been struck the fact that most people, including myself, get channeled into doing easy, normal things. But North Americans like ourselves are destroying our environment and the rest of the world.

"It's well-proven that North American lifestyles are pushing the earth's life support systems and a majority of its less-privileged human populations to a point of critical collapse," he said.

Inspired in part by the principles of deep ecology, an international movement to make the human future viable and sustainable, Janes wants to document his journey with slides for post-walk presentations to continue the discussion.

Janes will avoid roads and highways. His goal is to walk 10 km a day through untraveled backcountry.

"I think most of us know how serious our environmental and social inequalities are," he said. "People know about the state of the world. For people who don't, I urge them to start educating themselves – the information is out there."

Janes worked for two summers at Strathcona Park as a guide and one of his long-term goals is opening a outdoor recreation centre.

While friends and family are planning to walk sections with him, Janes will spend most of those two months alone. He will come back to the road occasionally to pick-up dehydrated food.

Asked if he's worried about bears, Janes said he will try to avoid confrontations, rather than rely on sprays or bells.

"Bears are intelligent animals and I give them a lot of brotherly respect," said Janes. "As for cougars, I hope that my 6'6" stature will act as a deterrent. With cougars you don't know you're in trouble until you're dead."

He said his parents taught him the value of taking risks and are quite supportive of his decision.

He's currently seeking sponsorship from local environmentally responsible businesses for organic food and supplies. While Janes wants to utilize local businesses as much as possible, he has already run into obstacles. For example, locally made hiking boots are impossible to find, he said.

But tracking down local supplies is just a smaller part of the larger challenge for Janes's mission.

"It's a collective challenge, for everyone who hears about it to be more critical of their lifestyle. We have very comfortable lives and that is the result of what we're doing to the environment."

photo by Suzanne Beaubien

Campus man walking: Peter Bickel Janes plans to walk the length of Vancouver Island, but he's taking the back way. Roads are for cars, dammit.

Activist student society has no action plan for coming tuition hike

by Kevin Groves

If Camp Turpin is erected at UVic, it won't be a UVSS initiative.

The student society has no formal plan to protest the dramatic rise in tuition fees that many believe will happen at the next university Board of Governors (BOG) meeting.

The typically radical board has endorsed student protests all year but it didn't mention an independently organized rally at its last meeting.

The protest, planned for March 25, will coincide with the day the university BOG is predicted to approve a tuition increase. Some activists are calling the action "Camp Turpin" after university president David Turpin, in the tradition of the late Camp Campbell.

Society Chair Jaime Matten played down the UVSS's unwillingness to endorse the event and said many society members would take part in the protest action.

"Students have organized it on their own so we have not formally endorsed it," she said. "But this is not to say that UVSS executives will be not be a part of it. I plan to be there."

Earlier this month 400 students occupied the UBC's Administration Building, where UBC leaders have gone ahead with a tuition increase before provincial budget announcements were made. Some campus radicals are calling for a similar action at UVic.

Matten and the board haven't been silent on the issue. The UVSS, and others, drafted an alternative university budget to prove that there were viable alternatives to tuition increases.

"Granted we're not UVic's financial directors, but it provides us with questions to ask about the contingency funds available," Matten said. "The university has told us they save for a rainy day. Well guess what it's pouring out."

Some worry the university administration's pending approval of a much needed student society loan has diminished the UVSS's approach to the protest event.

The loan in question would extend the UVSS's current line of credit with the university by an additional $650,000 to service the Society's massive debt, which now weighs in at $781,000.

David Clode, executive director of Student and Ancillary Services, explained that the loan simply transfers the society's short-term debt to a long-term debt.

Payments for the loan would come from the SUB building fund, a portion of student fees that generates about $163,000 a year.

Morgan Stewart, a student representative on the BOG, attributes the society's weak response to pending tuition hikes to issues surrounding the approval of the loan. He challenged society's level of commitment to student issues

"Not actually sponsoring the protest is silly. The loan's going to go through no matter what," he said.

Matten said that despite the UVSS's typically antagonistic relationship with university administrators, the loan proposal did not affect the UVSS's willingness to plan or endorse a protest.

"They're not connected at all," she said. "We've been really clear with the university that discussion on SUB finances is separate from our political relationship with them."

Matten said there has been no UVSS sponsored protest lately because they have waited to see what will happen next with tuition fees.

"We just got our hands on the budget letter so students at this time have known exactly what we've known," she said.

But Jonas Gifford, UVSS director of finance, speculated about the connection.

"I could certainly entertain the idea that the university did this on purpose," he said. "If they wanted to minimize protest they certainly could have put this on the BOG agenda at the same time."

Please see "Students propose alternative budget to avoid tuition hike" on page 4 for more details.

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Projected $40-billion cost for Kyoto 'rubbish,' Ottawa says

by Jeremy Nelson

TORONTO (CUP) – Those opposed to an international treaty to fight global warming should take some remedial math courses before shooting their mouths off again, say top environmentalists and the federal government.

Earlier in the month the Canadian Chamber of Commerce and the Canadian Manufacturers' Association released a report that claims ratifying the Kyoto Protocol would cost Canada $40 billion and mean 450,000 lost jobs.

But those numbers are "total rubbish" according to environment minister David Anderson, who said the findings are based on flawed and outdated data. Anderson said the report estimates the costs of ratifying Kyoto as if Canada were one of the only countries in the world to ratify the treaty. However, the entire European Union, including Britain, has already signed on.

The Kyoto Protocol is an international treaty that calls for greenhouse gasses to be cut back to six per cent below 1990 levels. Scientists say if the treaty is not ratified, greenhouse gasses will likely cause the world's oceans to rise at least half a metre over the next century, perhaps more, and temperatures could increase by several degrees Celsius.

Both Anderson and Greenpeace say the costs put forward by those opposed to the treaty – a group that includes big business lobbies, the petroleum industry and seven provincial governments – should bring back memories of the acid rain debate.

Anderson notes the actual costs of reducing acid rain was five times less than government estimates; themselves significantly lower than the multi-billion-dollar costs industry had put forward.

"The Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers and the Canadian Chamber of Commerce have never met an environmental regulation they like," said Greenpeace campaigner Jaime Heath, adding that the groups have a "Luddite mentality."

"It is idiocy to pretend that there are no opportunities for clean energy in this country," he said. "Opportunities that create jobs and reduce pollution."

Beyond just basing their math on worst-case scenarios, Heath and Anderson also note that the job loss estimates and costs don't take into account the costs of a warming planet.

Aside from dramatic increases in insurance claims from freak weather over the last decade, they also note that last year alone, the Canadian Wheat Board said the drought in Southern Alberta cost $5 billion and smog-related illness cost Ontario $1 billion.

Corporations denied vote

by Kevin Groves

Vancouver Island's city councilors voted against a motion that would give McDonald's and Weyerhaeuser the right to vote in B.C.

The motion was put forward by the town of Lake Cowichan at a recent conference of the Association of Vancouver Island City Councilors (AVICC) earlier this month. It proposed to allow corporate votes in municipal elections and may have set a dangerous precedent, according to some municipal politicians.

About 90 per cent of the city councilors who attended the conference voted against the motion.

"The end result would have been far-reaching in its impact," said Cobble Hill city councilor Richard Hughes, who spoke against the motion at the conference. "Local residents are already being overwhelmed by the power and control of corporations. We sure as hell don't need to give them any more."

Lake Cowichan Mayor Jack Peake said his municipality put forward the motion after pressure from small businesses in the area.

Under current municipal law, a businesses owner can't vote in a municipal election if they don't live in the municipality where the business operates.

Peake said he felt his reasons for the motion were misinterpreted at the conference. He said the idea was not solely intended to give large corporations the vote.

"Nothing could be further from the truth," he said. "My job is to represent the small-business people who are the major tax contributors in small communities and those folks deserve some recognition somewhere."

Still, Peake admitted he doesn't have a problem with handing over voting rights to corporations that operate a local branch in a community.

Without large corporations there are no taxes and no jobs to provide a vibrant economy, said Peake.

"Since when should a large taxpayer not have a say in the municipal election?" he said. "The minute someone throws the word corporation out there, everyone's blood pressure suddenly goes up, which I don't understand."

AVICC explored the idea of the corporate vote before. Similar motions were presented in 1999 and 2000. Both were defeated.

Eydie Foster, AVICC's executive coordinator, said this issue would be revisited in the future.

"It certainly could come back again. I hesitate to ever predict what the municipalities might come up with," Foster said.

Peake agreed and said if the motion does come back again it would be reincarnated in a reworded format.

This new version of the motion could be tabled as early as this September, when municipal leaders from across the province are set to meet, or at next spring's AVICC conference, said Peake.

"If there are concerns about the General Electrics of the world having too much control in municipal politics then we should ensure the legislation restricts who gets the vote," he said. "But as we all know, there are always ways to get around these things."

Date rape drugs still a concern

by Ashley Horton

While cases of date-rape drug use are seemingly on the decline in the Victoria area, it's still important for young people to educate themselves about the risks, say those who work in nightclubs and bars.

According to Scott Dryden, manager of Legends Nightclub, there have not been many cases of date-rape drugs in the past few months.

"There's such a presence of supervision," he said. "There's so much security watching the room and everybody picks up on that."

Two of the most common date-rape drugs are Rohypnol and Gamma-hydroxy butyrate, more commonly known as GHB or Liquid Ecstasy. They are both colourless, odourless and often tasteless. Both drugs are known to have been used in cases of sexual assault.

Still, Dryden maintains that bar staff are committed to the safety of clubbers.

Doormen ensure people know when they leave a drink unattended it will be removed. Also, if a group of people all leave a table, they should know that their drinks won't be there when they come back.

"It sounds like a broken record, but we always tell female patrons, when they go outside for a smoke or whatever, that if they leave their drink by the door, they should have drunk all they wanted," he said. "Another thing we tell them, particularly women, if someone's buying you a drink, go to the bar with them and watch it being made, instead of them getting it alone. That's probably the best advice we can give."

Sometimes it is hard to distinguish between the effects of a date-rape drug and the effects of just too much alcohol.

Nineteen-year-old Linda, who spoke under the condition of anonymity, learned this lesson the hard way a month ago at a nightclub downtown. She let people she didn't know bring her drinks and she also left her drink unattended.

She said she felt like she was in a bubble, with no control over what she was doing. She described it as feeling like a "robot."

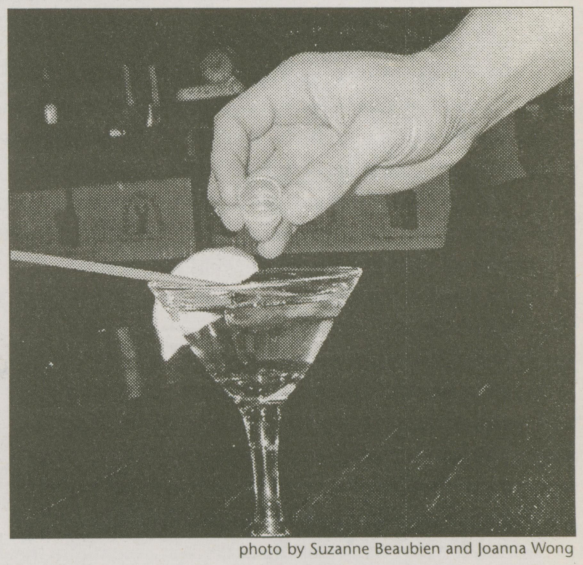

photo by Suzanne Beaubien and Joanna Wong

"I remember little clips of things, not like being drunk," she said. "I had to get people to tell me where I went and what I did."

She said the whole experience was surreal and she felt depressed in the days that followed, especially when she had flashbacks to that night.

"Basically when we go to a bar, we take a risk. We take a risk because most of the time when we go, we get drunk, and when we're drunk, our judgment goes down," she said. "If for any reason you start to feel strange, call a cab and go home or call your parents. Don't stick around to find out what's wrong."

To be safe, people who have any symptoms of a date-rape drug or any concerns should get checked out.

Rohypnol stays in the body for 36 – 72 hours and GHB for 10 – 12 hours.

UVic Health Services, clinics and hospitals all take urine samples to test for Rohypnol, GHB and other common date-rape drugs.

The University of Victoria's Sexual Assault Centre, located in the Student Union Building and the Health Services Building, give out pamphlets that describe the effects of the drugs, how to take care of yourself and what to do if you are a victim of sexual assault.

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Lobby group calls debt reduction a sham

by David Skinner

ST. JOHN'S (CUP) – The Canadian Federation of Students says the federal government's student-debt reduction program is a sham and has helped just a handful of people.

The national program, part of the government's 1998 Canada's Opportunity Strategy, is an education plan that provides financial aid to students. It gives university graduates extra funding to offset their student debt. According to CFS national chair Ian Bokyo, the program takes students on the basis of post-graduation income. The lower a student's income is, the better their chances are for acceptance.

However, Boyko says the program's wage requirements are too low.

"Quite simply, the government has set it up so that the eligibility tables for the program are so incredibly strict that next to no one can qualify," he said.

"In the first year when it was implemented, it only helped 44 students, when it promised to help 12,000 in the 1998 budget."

Boyko worries the program will help fewer and fewer people as time passes.

Jean-Michel Catta, a spokesperson for Finance Canada, challenges the CFS's claims. "I don't know where their numbers are coming from, but they're not the numbers we have," he said.

Catta says the program is growing. In its first year, the debt reduction program helped 146 applicants, he said. The next year, he says it invested over $2 million into 467 applicants.

"It is being used, increasingly so," Catta said. "Numbers keep going up. It does meet a need."

There are no plans to change the way the program operates, he says. The government may try to promote it more, though.

Boyko is unsatisfied. Debt reduction is not even the best way to approach student financial problems, he said.

The CFS would rather see a national system of needs-based grants, involving distribution of unconditional sums of money to needy students.

Catta says replacing the loans system with a grants program wouldn't be feasible. Canada faces a number of different priorities, he says, and student debt is just one of several things the federal government has to deal with.

"The government's approach is to focus on those who need financial assistance," he said.

"The approach in a world of finite resources, in a world of other key priorities, in a world where the government does not want to go back into deficit . . . the government has to make choices. It has to decide where its resources are most effective."

Boyko said the government should take a stand on the debt problem immediately. "Students can't wait any longer," he said. "We need something to address the crushing debt load."

Green petition may overhaul B.C. politics

by Tim Shuff

B.C. will never again see a huge Liberal majority if Adriane Carr gets her way.

The Green Party leader's petition for electoral reform was officially recognized by Elections BC last week. That means for the next 90 days, Carr and other canvassers will collect signatures in support of adopting the proportional representation electoral system used by Germany and New Zealand.

"It's the perfect time for an initiative like this because voters are so disenchanted with our current electoral system," said Carr. "They've seen how unfair the election results can be."

Britain, the US, India and Canada still use a "first-past-the-post" voting system, where seats go to the winner with the largest number of votes in each constituency.

Reformers say this is a flawed system that produces the sort of exaggerated majority illustrated with the BC Liberals, which took 58 per cent of the vote but won 97 per cent of the seats in the legislature.

Carr pointed out most of the votes for other party representatives didn't elect politicians to the legislature.

"The NDP got 22 per cent [of the vote] and they got two seats out of 79," said Carr. "The Green Party got 12.4 per cent of the vote and zero seats. It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see how unfair those results are."

To take action, Carr decided to test-drive B.C.'s Recall and Initiative Act, a law that allows any citizen to introduce legislation if they can collect the signatures of 10 per cent of registered voters in each of B.C.'s 79 electoral districts over 90 days. A successful petition forces government to vote on the proposed legislation or put it to a referendum.

> Proportional representation is seen as a way of getting more accountability in the system so you don't have exaggerated majorities.
> *Norman Ruff*

Carr's legislation would change B.C.'s electoral system to one of mixed-member proportional representation (MMP).

According to UVic political science professor Norman Ruff, MMP is a good choice among the alternatives to first-past-the-post. He said many of the world's democracies have adopted some form of proportional representation in the past 10 years and MMP has become the most popular.

Under MMP, British Columbians would cast two votes, one for a local representative and one for a party. Each party would end up with the number of seats that matched their share of the popular vote.

"Proportional representation is seen as a way of getting more accountability in the system so you don't have exaggerated majorities," said Ruff. "I think it's an idea whose time has come and we need a debate on it."

Advocates say proportional representation would make every vote count, increase voter turnout and revitalize democracy by restoring public confidence in the political process.

Nick Loenen is a former MLA who speaks for the citizen's group Fair Voting BC. Loenen is a long-time electoral reform advocate but he doesn't like to see proportional representation presented under the Green Party name, with MMP as the only alternative.

"We do not think that this should take place under a partisan banner," said Loenen. "It is not useful for them to endorse one particular system and say 'this is the answer for B.C.'"

Carr should have waited for the Liberals to address electoral reform themselves, he said.

B.C. Attorney General Geoff Plant said that there is a "real and legitimate interest" in electoral reform and Carr's petition does not effect the Liberals' promise to form a citizens' assembly to publicly debate the issue before the 2004 election.

Plant also said it's too early to know what action the Liberals will take if Carr's petition succeeds.

"The proponents of the petition, I suspect, have their work cut out for them," Plant said.

Carr is optimistic. She hopes to sign up 4000 volunteer canvassers and has over 700 applications so far, although most are from Victoria.

"I don't think there has been an issue that has a better chance of success than this one," Carr said. "I am absolutely pouring 100 per cent of my effort into this."

The petition will take place between May 13 and Aug. 12, 2002.

University floats short-term proposal to reinstate Work Study

by Heather Neale

The UVic administration will consider footing the bill for Work Study next year.

The program that was threatened with extinction as a result of government cutbacks may get a second chance. The university's Board of Governors will meet March 25 to review the university's budget and dollar details will be worked out then. There is talk of allocating $2.4 million of the school's annual $200 million budget to work study, teacher assistant (TA) positions and similar financial aid programs.

The provincial government cut all funding for the Work Study program earlier this year, stating it was not a 'core' program, but UVic's Board of Governors disagreed.

According to Vice President of Academics Jamie Cassels the program is a top priority for UVic.

"Students rely on this money," said Cassels. "It's what some call 'mission critical.'"

Mission critical means the programs benefit not only students but also the programs they work for.

For example, productions put on by the Fine Arts department rely on Work Study participants to keep their program thriving, as do science departments for laboratory maintenance and research assistance.

"The Work Study program is the fabric of some of these academic programs," said Cassels. "It gives students an opportunity to work in a field related to their studies. It's three bangs for your buck."

Tuition and transfer payments from the provincial government are the two main sources of UVic's revenue. They make up 95 per cent of the university's overall budget.

With the government pulling out its half of the deal, the university will be forced to explore other ways to make up the shortfall. Increased tuition is one option, which the Board of Governors will also decide on March 25.

photo by Graham Winterbottom

If you pour it they will come. Danielle Lewis shows off the mountain of beer locked up in the SUB for the Grad Party on March 22. Lewis, an Economics major, works at the campus bar but has Friday night off. She plans to celebrate with other grads and their pals.

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Students propose alternative budget to avoid tuition hike

by John Thompson

Morgan Stewart said he had one simple reason to draft an alternative budget for UVic.

"Thirty per cent tuition hikes," he said. "That's it. The alternative to 30 per cent tuition hikes is re-writing the budget."

Stewart is a student representative on the Board of Governors (BOG), the university body responsible for decisions such as increasing tuition fees. On Monday, March 25, the BOG will vote on a budget drawn up by the finance committee, which proposes a 30 per cent increase to tuition fees next year.

But Stewart said that substantial increases in tuition fees are unnecessary and argues the university has low-balled its revenue and exaggerated its expenses.

To prove his point, Stewart drafted an alternative to the university's current proposal.

"According to this budget, we can still keep tuition fees low," he said.

Stewart consulted with other BOG members while drafting the budget and worked with the current UVSS chair, Jaime Matten. But so far the alternative budget has left university administrators unconvinced.

"These are basically arbitrary reductions," said Jack Falk, the university's vice president of finance. "He doesn't understand the details behind them and nor would I expect him to."

Falk said the alternative budget is technically balanced, since the expenses and revenue equal each another. But he said the alternative budget's drop-in revenue would hurt the quality of education at UVic. "He's balanced it by taking $5 million out," he said.

Stewart said he believes that increased funding in areas like student financial aid is counterproductive, since the increase will be paid for with tuition fees. "All increased costs have to be paid by increased tuition fees."

He also said the university could invest more aggressively than it currently is and that their projected figures are out of sync from a steady increase in past years.

Falk said the university budget shouldn't be dependent on the marketplace.

"You don't change your fundamental budget based on investment income flows, because every year you're jumping up and down."

Falk said he looked at the alternative budget to understand how it differed from the version the administration will present to the BOG but he still believes a tuition increase is unavoidable. He added the final decision will be made by the BOG at the meeting on March 25.

Stewart believes that students can still prevent a tuition fee increase if they act now.

"This is the last chance for them to save about $700 next year," he said.

If Stewart's alternative budget were ratified by the BOG, tuition for a full-time arts degree would increase from $2151.80 to $2425.35 by 2004-05. That would be an increase of two per cent this year and a five per cent increase over the next two years, to counter UVic's rate of inflation.

In January a university proposal was leaked to the public that proposed an increase to tuition fees by 90 per cent over the next three years. This proposed three-year plan was recently voted down by the finance committee, who decided only to commit to changes for the following year.

For a full version of the alternative budget, plus endnotes and commentary, see: http://cfs.uvic.ca/~budget/.

Budget Projection	2001-02 Operating Budget	2002-03 Alternative	2002-2003 Administration	
Inflation Rate		1.40%	1.40%	
Increase Rate (over 2000 tuition level of $2265)	-5.00%	1.40%	19.93%	
Year's Full-Time Tuition (5 Courses for 2 semesters)	$2,152	$2,297	$2,716	
Increase Rate (over 2001 tuition level of $2151)		10.73%	30.96%	
Revenue				
Provincial Grants and Contracts	($115,723,459)	($122,116,853)	($122,116,853)	$0
Student Fees Credit	($33,126,980)	($36,681,450)	($43,383,290)	$6,701,840
Student Fees Other	($150,000)	($150,000)	($150,000)	$0
Investment Income	($1,100,000)	($1,852,832)	($1,100,000)	($752,832)
Other Revenue	($42,500)	($43,095)	($42,500)	($595)
Department Revenue	($19,550,563)	($21,093,809)	($21,093,809)	$0
	($169,693,502)	($181,938,039)	($187,886,452)	$5,948,414
Expenditure				
Salaries and Benefits	$138,081,818	$144,099,818	$144,099,818	$0
Supplies and Expenses	$21,469,914	$22,159,307	$22,159,307	$0
Utilities	$4,440,000	$4,440,000	$4,440,000	$0
Student Assistance and Awards	$4,119,205	$4,119,205	$4,242,205	($123,000)
Library Acquisitions	$4,739,095	$4,739,095	$4,735,245	$0
Central Services	$4,376,855	$4,376,855	$4,410,655	$0
Equipment and Renovation	$2,169,862	$2,169,862	$2,169,862	$0
Internal Recoveries	($11,390,106)	($11,549,567)	($11,358,495)	($191,072)
Appropriations	$1,686,859	$1,686,859	$1,686,859	$0
Transfer of Special Purposed Expenditures into Operating		$1,320,000	$1,320,000	$0
Expenditures Related to newly funded FTE's		$4,625,003	$4,625,003	$0
Savings from Reduced Enrollment areas		($2,000,000)	$0	($2,000,000)
Strategic Initiatives (Broken Out)		$1,111,500	$3,717,593	($2,406,093)
Calendar			$40,000	($40,000)
Childcare Support		$40,000	$40,000	$0
Computing		$60,000	$360,000	($300,000)
External/Government Relations			$200,000	($200,000)
Incentive Fund		$45,000	$45,000	$0
Library Acquisitions Fund			$300,000	($300,000)
PD & Training		$66,500	$66,500	$0
Student Financial Assistance (GTRF Workstudy)		$900,000	$2,466,093	($1,566,093)
Contractual Requirements		$130,000	$130,000	$0
Departmental Expenditures related to new fees			$1,508,400	($1,508,400)
Total Expenditure	$169,693,502	$181,427,937	$187,656,502	($6,228,565)
Variance	$0	($510,102)	($0)	

UBC approves hefty fee increase, first in six years

by Ai Lin Choo

VANCOUVER (CUP) – The University of British Columbia became the first B.C. university to increase tuition fees after the provincial government's decision last month to thaw its six-year fee freeze.

Under the new policy, approved by the university's board of governors at its March 14 meeting, undergraduate fees for 2002-03 will rise from $2,180 to $2,660, except those in commerce and pharmaceutical science, who will pay $3,270 and $5,400 respectively.

Fees for graduate-research programs will increase from $2,165 to $2,660, while those for post-baccalaureate and professional programs will rise over the next three years to approximate fees at Canadian peer institutions.

The policy also stipulates that 20 per cent of money received from fee increases go to student financial support and requires that the board allocate the money by its May meeting.

UBC has promised, however, that no student will be prevented from enrolling in, or continuing at, the university because of inability to pay.

"We believe [the proposal is] fair and reasonable. We also believe that it balances accessibility to the largest university in the province with a commitment to ensuring that we are able to provide quality education to British Columbians," said Martha Piper, the university's president.

The motion to increase tuition fees passed easily with little debate. Although some board of governors reps expressed concern about the principles behind the proposal and its implementation process, board members mostly supported the tuition-fee increase. Only two members voted against the proposal.

Ben Pong, a staff representative on the board, said he believed the increased fees will hinder recruitment and retention of graduate students and emphasized that attracting top graduate students is important to maintaining UBC's reputation as a leading research institution. He and student representative Maryann Adamec voted against the motion.

Over the past two weeks many students have criticized the proposal for limiting accessibility to the university and for arbitrarily basing tuition on national averages.

But after passing the motion, Piper said she believed the increases will not jeopardize enrolment at UBC.

"Experience across the country has not shown that changes in tuition have had any effect on demand," she said.

But Annick Gauthier, president of the university graduate student association, disagreed.

She said that when graduate fees for international students were raised in 1996, enrolment dropped significantly.

"There probably won't be a drop this year," she said. "But in years two and three, I think numbers will decrease."

The board meeting was moved to the Chan Centre for Performing Arts after student protesters who opposed tuition increases occupied the board's chambers in the Old Administration Building and refused to leave. The protesters, who gathered in the hallway outside Piper's office at 9:30 a.m. March 13, spent over 24 hours in the building.

Members of the board seemed unaffected by the protests. Student representative Tieg Martin said that although he was elected to represent students, he disagreed with demands to maintain tuition at the formerly frozen rates.

"I'm a student representative but in the board room I'm a board member," he said. He added that all the cuts UBC has made in the past few years speak to the necessity of a fee increase.

And Piper said the administration would help students cope with the approved increase.

"We believe that we can assist [students] through scholarships, bursaries, work-study programs and other means of financial assistance," said Piper. "But, absolutely, it's very important that we communicate this so they don't see this as a barrier from applying."

Student association president Kristen Harvey said that although she understands the university's need to increase fees to improve education at UBC, specific goals should have been set.

"I still continue to be disappointed with the rationale behind approving a tuition proposal that's based on the national average. Both the [student association and graduate student association] believed that any tuition proposal needed to be evidence-based in order to accomplish goals," she said.

An outline of the allocation of funds from the tuition increase will be presented to the board of governors at its next meeting in May. The administration will also be required to provide a detailed report at the March 2003 board meeting describing action taken to improve learning and student support for 2002-03.

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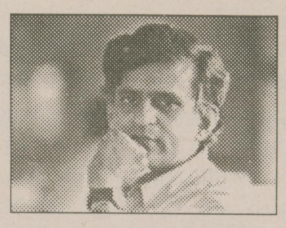
Indian journalist brings exhibit to UVic

by Suzanne Beaubien



India's leading development journalist brought his photo exhibit to the University of Victoria last week for its North American premiere.

Palagummi Sainath's exhibit "Visible Work, Invisible Women" documents with text and photographs the lives and work of rural women in India. Most of the women live in extreme poverty and spend long hours completing tedious and back-breaking labour.

Sainath followed these women because of their lack of coverage in the mainstream media.

"Their work is not acknowledged," he said. "Most urban Indians would not have any clue about the extent of the work that these women do."

The exhibit's black and white panels follow the women from the fields and quarries where they spend their days in hard labor, to the market where they face abuse and exploitation and then back home where they toil without pay on land they have no legal title to.

Sainath spent nine years following the rural women labouring with bricks and stone, agriculture, parenting, gathering water, fodder and fuel, the marketplace, dung collecting, cooking and cleaning and dairying.

The photo journalist grew up in an urban area, with very little knowledge of rural life.

"In the city, I grew up thinking of the guy who brought the milk as the 'milkman.' But I discovered that 93 per cent of dairying is done by women," he said, gesturing to a photo of a woman hunched over an animal. "Again, they're invisible."

One panel displays a photograph of a woman carrying a large basket on her head. She is a dalit, one of the people formerly called the "untouchables" and she cleans "night soil."

In her basket are other people's feces. While the Indian census does not list "night soil cleaner" as an official occupation, there are close to a million people, mostly women, who do this job daily. The cleaners remove the feces from dry latrines, often only using their hands. They are paid in curry or rice.

Most of these people "earn more wrath than respect," said Sainath.

His detractors, mostly from mainstream Indian media have called him a muckraker and arrogant but he said it's impossible for him not to be arrogant.

"Mainstream journalism is such crap that you cannot help but feel superior," he said. "I call it the McDonaldization of journalism; it's the same everywhere."

With this exhibit, Sainath said, he's been able to bypass the mainstream media and bring his message to the people.

At the exhibit's inauguration last year, in the Indian city of Vizag, four women depicted in the photos sang a harvesting song to the 25,000 people that joined a mass rally in support of landless women and came out to see the exhibition.

"It was exhilarating," said Sainath with a wide smile. "The women in the photographs think it is a valuable contribution to their lives. That's my first test. They came from their villages; they feel like they own it. That's very important. It's theirs."

Sainath also wrote a book called *Everyone Loves a Good Drought* about his tours through India. He donates one hundred per cent of its royalties to rural journalists' education. Sainath also teaches hundreds of rural Indian men and women how to tell their people's stories.

photo by Palagummi Sainath

He currently teaches at Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut.

The 10th and last panel of the exhibition is about hope. Unlike the other displays, there is no text to accompany the two photos. Both are of a young girl, holding pots on her head. Her eyes are closed in the first photo, followed by a fierce glare in the other.

Sainath said he intentionally omitted her story so people would ask him about her.

"It's about the day you start questioning the existing order," he said. Sainath captured the girl on film when he interviewed her family. She had just returned from a day of hard labour.

"She's curious but she's exhausted and she falls asleep standing. I click. Her parents, her uncle, her brothers laugh. She wakes up and she knows someone has intruded on her rights. She guesses it's the stranger in the gathering and she gives me one look.

"It's the picture of someone coming to consciousness of their rights," he said. "That's the idea."

Iranian speaker addresses women's issues

by Joy Waller

How would you feel knowing your father could kill you if you spoke to a man outside your immediate family or if you wore the wrong colour of clothing?

For many women in the Middle East this question is a reality and finding the answer isn't so easy.

Azam Kamguian, a former citizen of Iran discussed the position of Middle Eastern women in her speech "Islam and the Status of Women in the Middle East" at UVic on March 13.

"Political Islam and human rights are contradicting concepts," she said, stressing that the separation of Islamic religion from the state is a basic prerequisite for women's freedom. Until that difference is instituted politically, the legal age of nine years for a girl to wed, or the verdict of death for rape will not change.

Kamguian expressed disappointment in the ideas of cultural relativism adopted by many Western "intellectuals." These ideas suggest that differing cultures have different ways of doing things, hence, Islamic countries should be left alone to tend to their own culture.

"Why should geographic borders decide what is acceptable in one country and not another?" she asked. "Women's rights are universal."

As chairperson of the Committee to Defend Women's Rights in the Middle East, Kamguian is working hard to expose the atrocities taking place in her homeland and other Islamic nations. The events of Sept. 11 helped expose the plight of Afghan women, but "those are just a small portion of the realities," said Kamguian. She urges UVic students to "put [politically correct] attitudes behind them and defend the truth."

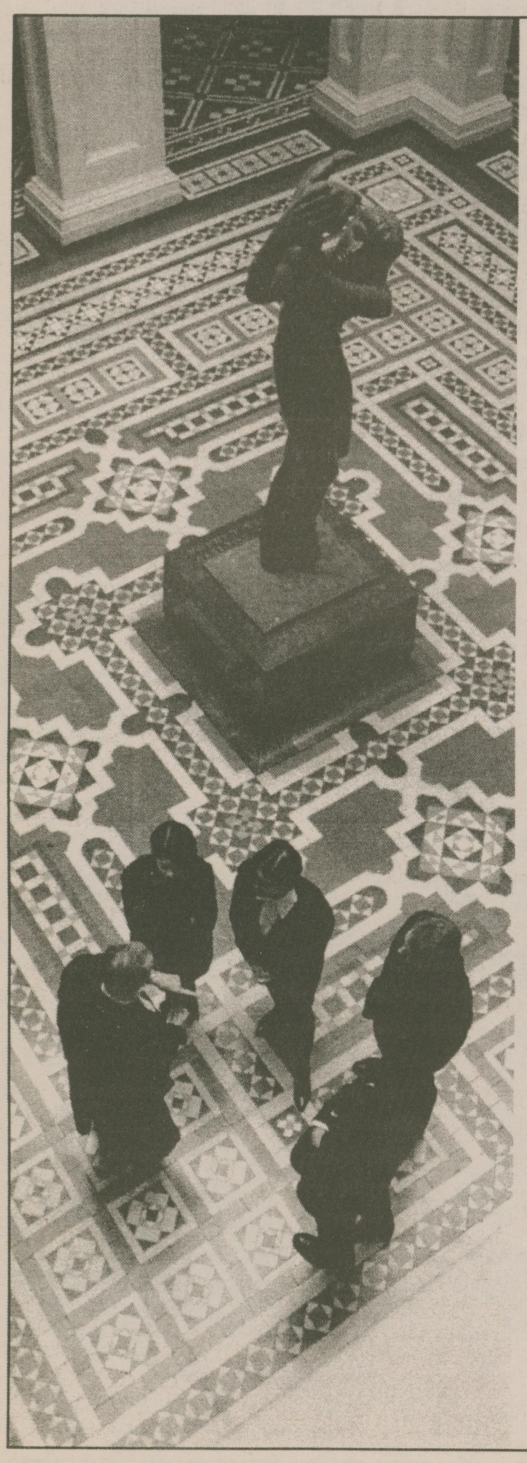
Stacey Chappel, executive director of the Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG), said something as simple as letter-writing can be quite effective. She recommended "lobbying our government in terms of restricting involvement in trade," noting that Canada is the seventh-largest exporter of arms to Third World countries.

"It's important for people to be well-informed and know that Iran is not a government we should be encouraging relationships with," said Chappel.

But the majority of Iran's citizens are not responsible for the decisions of its leaders and many, particularly women, are suffering.

"Muslims are being attacked by non-Muslims," said Chappel, recalling the anti-Muslim backlash following Sept. 11– a backlash that included mosque-burning, verbal assault and some cases of murder.

"When we don't critique the culture, we risk abandoning women," said Chappel. "But if we demonize the culture, we run the risk of starting a war."



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Future freshwater woes for Canada, scientist warns

by Loren Mullane and John Thompson

The abundance of freshwater in Canada is a myth that needs to be dispelled, argued Dr. David Schindler on March 13 at UVic.

The award-winning scientist and University of Alberta professor said unless agriculture and forestry industries change their practices, all Canadians will pay a big price in the future.

He predicts polluted freshwater will "at best . . . cost us tens, if not hundreds, of billions of dollars in the next 100 years." At worst, he expects it could "generate several more Walkerton-like incidents."

Schindler said large feedlots, used to raise cattle or pigs, pose a major threat to Canada's freshwater supply. Thousands of animals are concentrated inside the 3000-hectare farms and their waste contains dangerous bacteria such as E. Coli and Salmonella that if left untreated, cause death.

The waste is temporarily stored in lagoons, which are supposed to prevent bacteria from getting into the groundwater. But Schindler said a study in North Carolina, a big pork-raising state, showed 50 per cent of the older lagoons leach waste into the groundwater.

Schindler said the Albertan government plans to raise 10 million pigs in the province, which will produce the same amount of waste as 60 million people. The difference, Schindler said is the animal waste will be left untreated.

"Why are we allowing pig and cattle discharges directly into water when we control humans'?" he asked.

In one example, Schindler said farmers north of Edmonton have bulldozed their cattle's waste onto the frozen surface of the Peace River. When the ice breaks up in the spring, the waste is washed directly into the water.

Besides voicing concerns about contamination, Schindler also predicted the amount of freshwater will dwindle as the climate temperature increases, caused by greenhouse gases trapped in the atmosphere. He identified Alberta and the prairies, already dry areas, as potential hotspots for a future water crisis.

Most scientific models for climate change predict a two to three degree centigrade increase in summer temperatures on the prairies, Schindler said. The amount of rainfall is not expected to change but the higher temperatures will increase evaporation and lead to parched land, lakes and waterways.

Schindler pointed to studies that suggest many of the prairie lakes were once dry. For example, grass spores have been found beneath Lake Manitoba, North America's twelfth largest lake. They have been carbon dated at 4,000 years old, to a period when the continent was hotter by about four degrees. Schindler said this suggests Lake Manitoba and many other prairie lakes could once again dry up if the climate continues to warm.

The failure to adequately protect freshwater in Canada is partially based on the myth that we have an abundance of it, Schindler said. However, most of Canada's lakes are in the far north and most major rivers also drain in the north, water is scarce along the band following the American border, where the majority of Canadians live.

Schindler said several recent polls suggest the environment as a high priority on the agenda of Canadians, but he is not optimistic change will come soon. He said the politicians who direct policy tend to favour the interests of business, which are often hostile to stringent environmental regulations.

He also said media is reluctant to cover environmental issues, which he speculated was because of a concentration of media ownership in the hands of corporations.

Schindler's ground-breaking work in the late 1960's on the affect of phosphates in lakes, influenced government policy in Canada and around the world. He published over 240 research papers and won numerous awards, including the 2001 Gerhard Herzberg Canada Gold Medal, the highest honour for Canadian scientists.

NEWS BRIEFS

History of racism in B.C. discussed

by Lorna Mace

History scholar Patricia Roy reminded British Columbians that when it comes to racism, we are not just innocent bystanders.

"Historically, British Columbia has been as guilty of racism as the Southern United States or Africa," the UVic professor said in a speech entitled "A History of Racism in B.C." on March 19.

Roy outlined the many examples of racism towards Japanese, Chinese, Indian and First Nations people that have occurred in B.C. since before our country's Confederation. It was the last lecture in a series called "Armed with Understanding."

The latest lecture aimed to give students an understanding of their province's racist history. "If we forget the racism, it just perpetuates," said Jude Coates, who organized the series. "It's really important to connect our racist past, with our racist present . . . and our racist future."

Only a small number of people attended the lecture, but Roy took the opportunity to speak less formally and include open discussion. She began with a look at racism in colonial B.C. and how it wasn't as apparent until the arrival of European settlers.

"Colonial B.C. was comparatively free of overt prejudice," said Roy, "[until the Europeans arrived] with ideas that were common . . . some races of people were intrinsically better than others."

Roy described the paternal view settlers held towards the First Nations people and noted that because they were considered wards of the state, they lacked basic political rights.

"Of all British Columbians, Asians have suffered the most legal discrimination," said Roy. She continued to describe the fear people in the province held that the Asians would overpopulate the province, compete in the job market and fail to contribute enough to the economy. As a result the province discriminated through the use of head taxes and other immigration restrictions, she said.

She said there was plenty of discrimination in the workplace.

"There was discrimination in the form of the Male Minimum Wage Act, [and] there were two attempts in B.C. to segregate schools," she said.

Lecture attendee Megan Hyslop said she feels we need to be reminded of our less-than-perfect past and present.

"I think racism is still a problem in B.C.," said Hyslop. "It helps to understand the history of a situation [in order] to understand present motives."

Lesbian pair-off at walk

by Suzanne Beaubien

Lesbians and their UVic allies will walk in remembrance of Michèle Pujol on March 26.

The seventh annual Michèle Pujol Lesbian and Allies Walk will kick off in front of the SUB at 2:00 p.m. with student and faculty speakers, the radical cheerleaders and a lesbian safe-sex demo by the PERV squad. After the speakers, the group will tour campus to increase queer visibility.

The walk was inspired by Michèle Pujol, a UVic women's studies teacher who died of breast cancer in 1997.

As part of her curriculum, Pujol mandated her students to walk around campus for 15 minutes holding hands with someone of the same sex. The students then wrote about how they felt about the exercise, which was designed to promote understanding of queer issues on campus.

The event incorporated the entire campus after Pujol's death.

At this year's walk, Christine St. Peter will speak about Pujol and the history of the walk. Debby Yaffe will address issues of lesbian visibility. Pride collective chair Ayla Lepine will also speak.

Danielle Gauld, a fourth-year women's studies student is planning this year's events. She said it's important everybody participate in the festive event.

"It's an interesting experience particularly for allies, because it pushes you to challenge yourself," she said.

Society cuts summer services

by Suzanne Beaubien

The UVSS decided to cut back SUB services this summer due to budgetary restraints.

In the past, SUB business managers struggled to break even during the much slower months from May to August.

Finance director Jonas Gifford said this year the student society intends to run SUB services to meet the demands of summer students.

"We don't have enough money to keep everything open," said Gifford. "But our big areas of concern are food."

The Health Food Bar will close, with the International Grill and Bean There picking up the slack for the healthy set.

Both the IQ Lounge and Felicitas will remain open during the summer months but with reduced hours. The IQ lounge will keep afternoon hours for the lunchtime crowd while Felicitas will remain open in the evenings.

Approximately 50 people have signed an informal and anonymously distributed petition in favour of maintaining the health food bar's hours over the summer.

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photo by dan harder

Brice Miller, Adam Amlani and Phil Anderson pulled out the couch to welcome spring. Before all this crazy snow came. Shit is wack.

Potluck opens up racism discussion

by Lisa Helps

> It's not just about racism. It's not just about homophobia. This isn't just about ableism. These aren't separate things.
>
> *Jane Lee*

Jo-Anne Lee likens her experience of "whiteness" to a banana.

"I'm yellow on the outside, white on the inside," the women's studies professor said at the "Critical Multicultural" potluck on March 18.

Lee used the metaphor to emphasize the pervasiveness of white privilege. She made the comment during a speech calling the audience to action on issues of discrimination in the classroom.

Various UVic staff, students and administrators joined Lee and others to take a critical look at multiculturalism on campus.

It was the first formally organized meeting to bring together the university community to both critically examine multiculturalism and consider how all oppressions are interrelated.

"I felt like we needed to work together," said event organizer Jane Lee. "It's not just about racism. It's not just about homophobia. This isn't just about ableism. These aren't separate things."

One of the event's goals was to examine discrimination on campus and in the classroom. Both attendees and organizers saw the event as more than just a typical potluck.

"This isn't a social event," said Jo-Anne Lee. "The planners didn't put all this time and effort in so we could share a meal and continue to fetishize difference. The purpose of this event is a call to action."

The evening began with an invite-only session attended by over 50 people. Invitees were seated strategically to mingle faculty, students and administrators and were given questions to discuss. The question participants spent the most time on was "Are your intellectual, cultural and historical traditions dignified in the current university curriculum and campus environment?"

Students of Colour Collective member and event organizer Adam Rudder said he felt this discussion period was crucial.

"We're articulating our own identities and that in itself is disruptive, because we don't necessarily fit into any clear categories," said Rudder.

The later session was open to the community and began with words of welcome from NSU firekeeper Troy Sebastian and a song from Haida student Jusquan.

Women's studies professors Debby Yaffe and Jo-Anne Lee, community activist Rose Henry and UVic student and artist Eva Campbell gave speeches.

Topics included the "problematization" of whiteness and white privilege, and the need to challenge incidents of discrimination both in the classroom and in the larger community.

Lee challenged the crowd to think of whiteness as historically and culturally constructed and not unrelated to colonization, capitalism and patriarchy. "Whiteness is the dandruff of all these things," she said.

"We can talk about being white as a type of practice, consciousness, embodied way of being. How do we perform this dominant whiteness in our classrooms? [Examining this] is a job for all of us."

photo by Katt Edwards

Although the "Critical Multicultural" potluck served up much more than food, there were good eats to be had from around the world.

Both Yaffe and Lee spoke about the importance of creating safer classrooms for faculty and students. They also brought up the necessity of people taking responsibility for their own issues.

"All of us in many ways experience our points of privilege as discomfort. We need to start learning from this discomfort," Yaffe said.

A short question and discussion period wrapped up the evening.

Many attendees and organizers felt the evening's events were just the beginning.

Women's Studies Outreach Committee member April Willams said the night was a historical moment.

Jane Lee agreed.

"The commitment shown that night was amazing, that many people stayed for four hours. We don't need to sigh and say, 'Okay that was great,' we need to keep pushing."

The potluck was organized by the UVSS constituency groups, the Native Students' Union (NSU), the Women's Studies Outreach and CHAI (Jewish student's group).

NEWS BRIEFS CONTINUED

Students count waste on campus

photo by Suzanne Beaubien

Adam Myolsness builds a "footprint" out of empty cups collected from around UVic to raise awareness about waste on campus.

by Lisa Helps

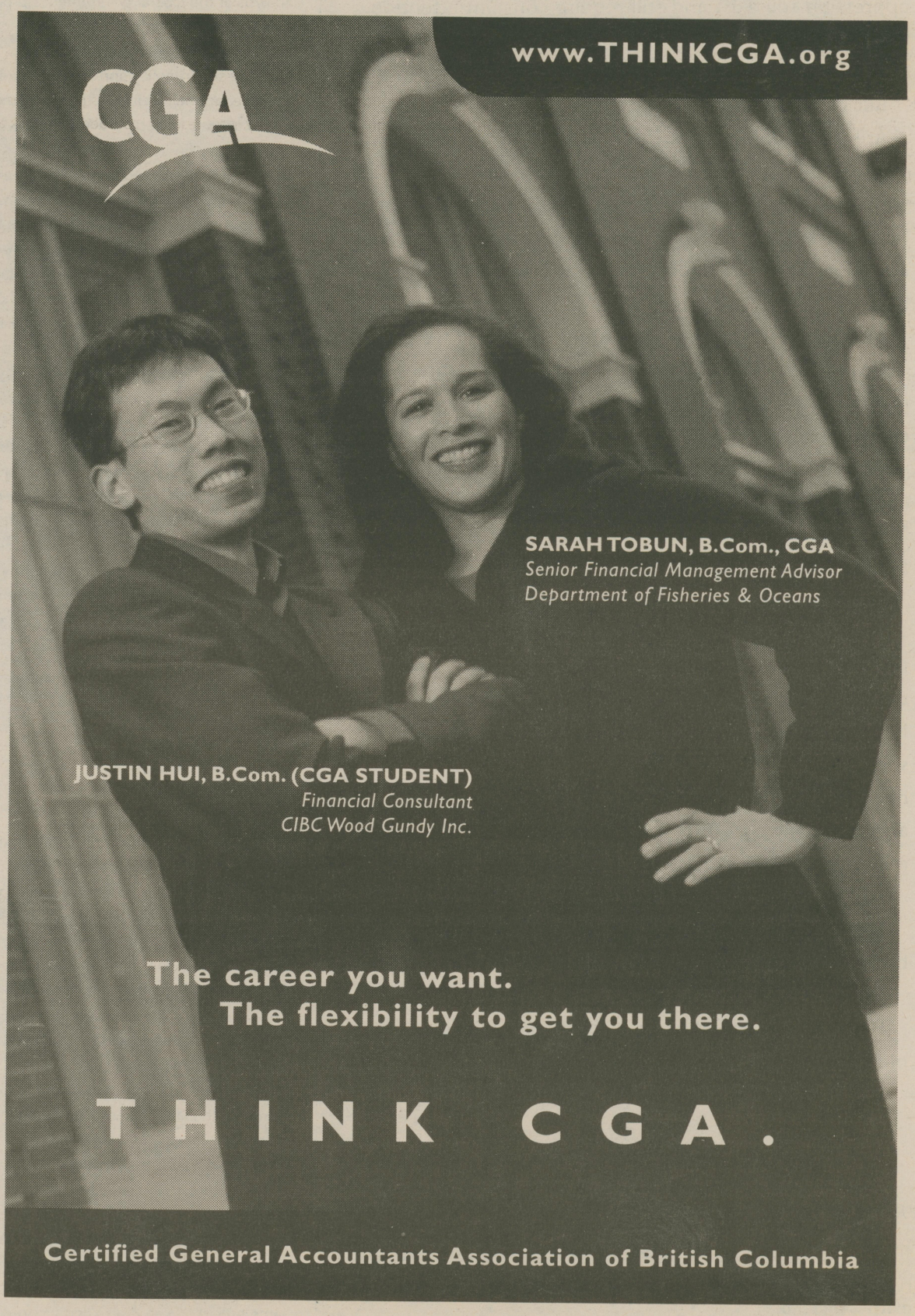
UVic students Ian Saunders and Adam Myolsness spent March 19 making a footprint outside the SUB. They used disposal cups recovered from trash cans around campus.

The two members of the UVic Sustainability Project (UVSP) along with the UVSS environmental education committee, Amaranth, and several other student groups created "Don't Chuck the Cup" to visually alert people to the unnecessary overuse of paper cups. Paper cups are not recyclable in the city of Victoria.

"What we have here is the equivalent of one days worth of cups we throw out on campus," said Saunders gesturing to the pile of about 400 cups.

The action was part of a larger project funded by the Facilities Management Sustainability office and coordinated by students of the UVSP to increase recycling effectiveness on campus.

Dianna Porter of the UVSP pointed to a display set up inside the Michèle Pujol room that broke down garbage bin content. There are 32 lbs of waste in 10 garbage bins. Twelve pounds are actual garbage, three pounds recycling, four pounds paper cups and 13 pounds compost.



EDITORIAL

Oh me, oh my – editor in crisis!

The Martlet is having an existential crisis. Well, at least we feel very jaded.

March 21 is the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. It seems that every day there's a protest (at least in our march-happy city), every week there's a United Nations Day, every month is heralded to celebrate some undercelebrated segment of our society.

Somebody is downtrodden. Somebody got a raw deal. The environment is under attack. The world is apathetic. And what a surprise: *the Martlet*, as one of Victoria's few remaining sources of edgy alternative news and views (after *Monday*'s recent marked softening), goes like a buzzy self-important bee to its hive to lap up the world's problems, fight for the underdog and condemn the student community's apathetic response.

Indeed, what a surprise! Rather than do what everybody expects us to do, I think *the Martlet* staff will go home and watch *Temptation Island*.

Token days just aren't sexy anymore.

Alright, fuck it.

We acknowledge that racism, homophobia and cultural oppression still exist and still require constant attention. Begrudgingly we accept that this is, in fact, the point of having token days.

But we feel numb.

Are we all going numb? What can we do to elicit real change? Is human nature just inherently flawed? How can we save this fragile planet when we can barely get our homework done, give our lovers appropriate amounts of attention, keep our houses relatively clean and call our parents?

At this current moment in history, where do we start?

How do we fight various isms and phobias when we're right in the middle of everything – everyone oppressed, everyone an oppressor?

Women's studies professor Jo-Anne Lee said in her address at a "Critical Multicultural" potluck on March 18, "I'm challenging you to join together to be anti-racist, anti-hegemonic leaders."

What, on this unruly earth, does she mean by this?

Hegemony refers to the way in which a ruling class represents its interests as being everyone's interests. The ruling class may keep its grip on society either by social hegemony, that is, the use of force to maintain order in society, or, much more ubiquitously, by cultural hegemony, by producing ways of thinking and seeing, and especially by subtly eliminating alternative views, to reinforce the status quo.

So how can we be anti-hegemonic leaders?

Think critically. Act critically. Question everything. Be brave. Call people on racism, sexism, homophobia.

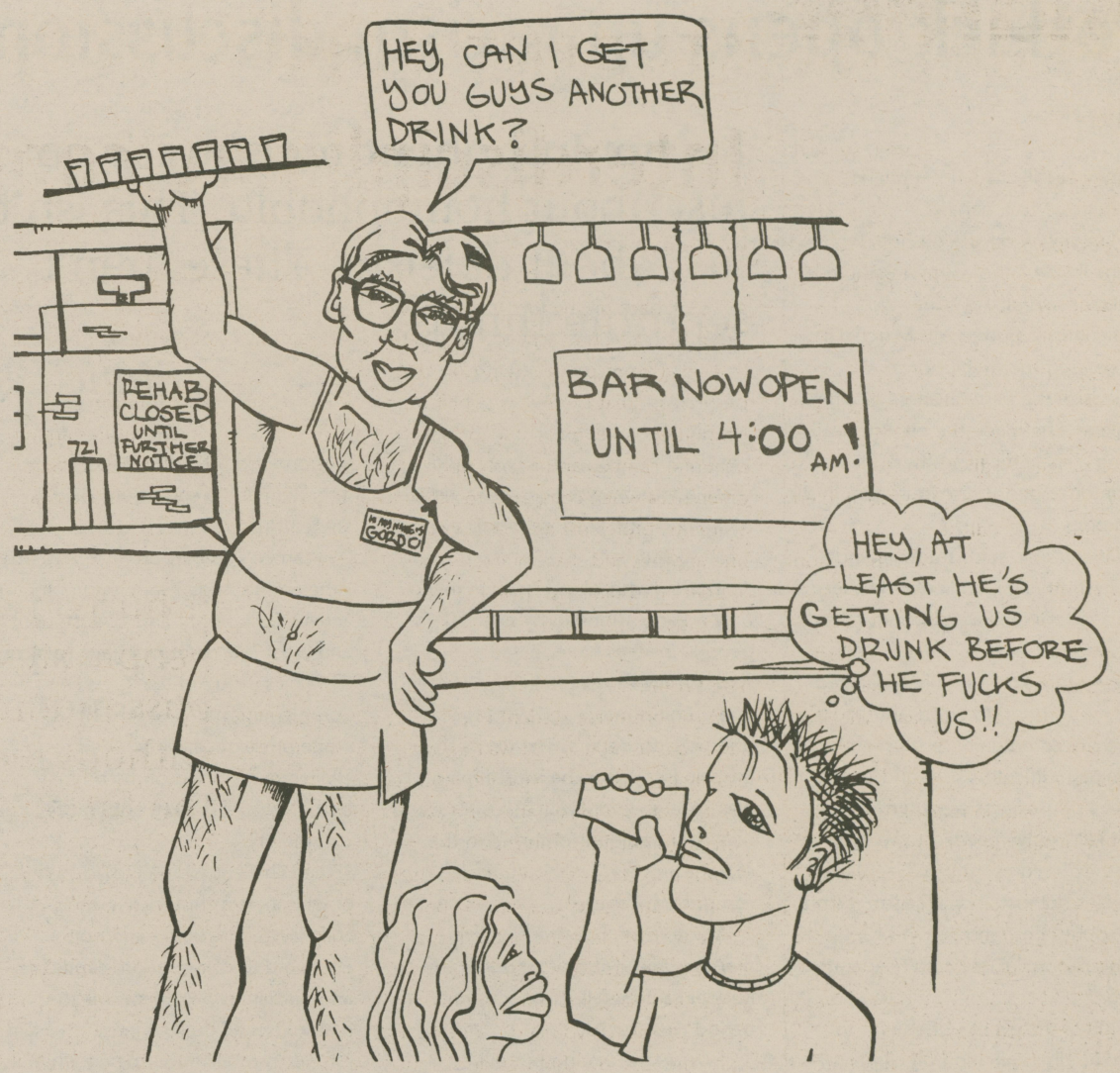
Examine your own. Closely.

Have we succeeded or do we just sound like the same old editorialists preaching social justice for all?

Well if we do, we suppose there's a damn good reason.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at editorial meetings, every Monday at 12:30 p.m. in SUB b110a. Editorials are written by one or more staff members, and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

Don't like what you read? Write, write, write, gimme gimme gimme: martlet@uvic.ca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LETTERS

Welfare forum omits key viewpoints

I attended the "Cutting Welfare" forum on Wednesday, March 13, at the Grad Students' Lounge and would like to express some concerns. The forum agenda was to provide an analysis of the Liberal government's proposed B.C. Employment and Assistance Act, with a panel of speakers primarily in academic positions at UVic. While I appreciated the expertise in policy and history of welfare that the panelists offered, I felt that the representation in the panel was extremely flawed. In a forum on welfare, why were no people living on income assistance found on the panel to offer their expertise? In particular, the panelists often spoke of how much of an impact the changes to welfare will have on single mothers, yet no single moms living on welfare were on the panel to speak about the personal impact of the welfare cuts. Also, the panelists gave statistics on the high levels of poverty found in First Nations communities. I was not under the impression that a First Nations person was represented on the panel and there was no discussion of the direct link between First Nations poverty and Canada's legacy of racism and colonialist oppression. Once again, the academy has failed the community by sitting on the perch of the Ivory Tower and keeping their distance from the reality of poor people's lives. I'm glad the forum was organized to offer some knowledge on the issue of welfare cuts; however, those with academic expertise must realize that knowledge comes from many places. Let the knowledge of the people who are most effected by these issues come to the forefront of these community forums.

Erin Davis

Am I Canadian?

Am I Canadian?
Was I Canadian?
Have I been Canadian?
Would I be Canadian?
Will I be Canadian?
Will I have been Canadian?
I will never be Canadian.

"She has become Canadian," Sigrun Maria Kristinsdottir ends her article "On becoming Canadian" in the March 14, 2002, issue of the Martlet. She (or her [character]) has become Canadian, I gather, from experiencing Canada in its various aspects. But, finding myself in a similar situation to hers, I wonder how can she come to such a flat conclusion as that? Even as she is reflecting on having become Canadian, it is juxtaposed by the fact that she is writing from a non-Canadian perspective.

To be sure, you get used to the customs of a country. You can learn the language so well no one will ask about your accent any longer. You can dress the way people in that country do. You can pick up its inhabitants' opinions about, let's say, the US. You can cheer for the country's athletes during the Olympics. You can take part in a protest march against its government. You can love the country for everything that makes it different from where you are from and for everything that reminds you of your home at the same time. You can dislike certain aspects of the country, and accept them as you would accept the mistakes of people you love. You can feel part of society. You can feel that you are where you always wanted to be. In Canada, for example.

But you cannot become Canadian.

I believe that one can always be Canadianized, but not Canadian. If you have grown up in a different country, with a possibly similar, yet different culture and a different mother tongue, your identity will always be tied to that particular place. Sometimes you wish you had been born and raised somewhere else. Sometimes you just like "somewhere else" better. But you cannot change your past and discard your identity as Icelandic, Kyrgyz, Namibian, Japanese or wherever you are from, only because you have lived in Canada for a while. Even if it has been almost a lifetime. You do not become something else only because you wish you could.

Maybe one day you get your citizenship and legally you are Canadian. But you are not. There is always another part of you, a loving, hating, or indifferent memory of a past that you spend in a different country.

Sometimes I wish I were Canadian, too. I am allowed to be a different person here than I am at home. I like that aspect. And it is a beautiful country with lovely people in it. It has some very disturbing sides, too – just like in any other place. I have lived in different nations and dreamed of living in others, and if I were to choose where to spend the rest of my life right now, Canada would certainly be a favourite. But no matter whether or not I get a Canadian passport one day, and look Canadian, sound Canadian, even think Canadian, if that is possible, there will always be a part of me that is not.

Hertje Brodersen

Use of space has potential to encourage community

I am in FULL support of all the ideas and concerns expressed in the editorial from March 14, 2002 entitled "Where would all the bunnies go?" I agree that the amount of "green space" on campus must NOT be reduced and yes, I am also a fan of the "bunnies." They really add a certain "vibe" to UVic which is above and beyond most other institutions. The more our campus resembles "nature," the happier, healthier and wiser we'll all be.

I would also like to point out that the SPECIFIC suggestions brought forth in the editorial are ALL excellent! I have wanted to see a credit union on campus for a LONG time! It would add a great deal of convenience to the lives of students who are credit union members and don't deal at all with the bank heads. A postal outlet on campus would be EXTREMELY important to those students who can't always make it downtown or wherever to do their mailing. A grocery store and a "Green Cuisine" would be the "icing on the cake" and would pretty much transform UVic into the self-sufficient, vibrant, down-to-earth community it really is. Let's make it happen!

Johnny Popoff

[2001/2002]
Martlet
UVic's Student Paper

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STUDENT VOICE

Interdisciplinary cooperation is the ticket

by Kevin Ablett

As I look back on my four years at UVic, I smile. Good friends. Good school. Good times.

I see a lot of positive things at UVic: excellent programs, great professors (albeit not all of them), beautiful people, great student governance, a beautiful campus and a fairly open tolerance of differences when compared to other schools. Students, professors and administrators co-exist with one another and share different stories, different lifestyles and different goals.

Or do they?

The Problem

As a commerce student I hear what other students say about us. You see us walking around in our suits, usually because we have a job interview or a presentation to make, and think we're "little corporate piggies." You make rude remarks to your friends and classmates about us capitalists.

If this applies to you; how hypocritical of you! There you are, learning about respecting differences, about breaking down barriers between cultures – and you're busy building one up. And what's worse is that it's between you and your fellow students. It hurts me to know that people stereotype and pass judgment on us without really knowing the facts. Sure, there probably are a few of us who would love to be the next CEO of Exxon, or some other polluting multinational, but not me. I'd venture to say that there is a student in every department, not just commerce that would take that job in a second, although they'd never tell you that. And I know for a fact that a lot of my fellow commerce students would never forego their morals to take a job like that. Would you? No. Good! Now that we have something in common, let's see what we can do about this misunderstanding and this mess we call Earth.

The Solution

Our futures are not set in stone – yours or mine. And the way I see it, it's a perfect time for UVic to make a positive change. We need to start working, thinking with each other instead of against each other.

> It hurts me to know that people stereotype and pass judgment on us without really knowing the facts.

Any project, even if it's the most environmentally-sound idea, must make financial sense or nobody will ever give you the money to do it. I wish it wasn't so, but it is. And rather than get upset and hate the system, we need to make the system work for us, not against us.

To start us down the right path, commerce students need to learn about some of the positive projects going on in other parts of the school. It will help us open our minds more to the idea of sustainable business. At the same time, students in other faculties need to learn more about how their projects are evaluated from a business perspective. Indeed, we have much we can learn from, and teach, each other.

To make this change happen, professors need to realize and recommend the opportunity, students need to request it, and administrators need to authorize and implement it. And believe me, the benefits abound. Think about it:

The students will be happy because they'll get to meet new people and learn new, valuable perspectives from their peers on projects they're interested in.

The professors will be happy because they'll be able to share some of the load of their students, expand their networks and be part of an innovative learning program.

And the administration will be happy because its students will be happy, its professors will be happy and it will give them a new innovation to cheer about. Talk about teamwork!

Just imagine the amount of alumni money that will start pouring in when graduates from different faculties start new joint ventures and make it big.

The benefits are clear, the possibilities endless; how long do you think it's going to be before it becomes standard practice with all schools?

After all, our futures and our pasts are and will be tied to this university. It's up to us to make of that what we will. I'd like to see a positive change and I hope that you do, too. And I believe it's much better to start trends than to follow them.

Kevin Ablett is a fourth-year commerce student specializing in Entrepreneurship. He plans on graduating in August and pursuing a career in sustainable development.

MORE LETTERS

Geography not writer's strong point

I would like to comment on one of your features in the March 14, 2002, issue of *the Martlet*. In the arts section, Elianna Lev reviews the play "I, Claudia." Not only does this review not do the play justice but it takes away its credibility and artistic merit. One instance of this takes place when Ms. Lev compares the play to the Babysitters Club. However, the most glaring inaccuracy in the review takes place when Ms. Lev mentions that Drachman (the Janitor) is from "Bolgonia." Either Ms. Lev did not pay attention to the play, or she has failed her geography courses. There is no country of "Bolgonia." The country in question is Bulgaria, in Europe. Drachman even mentions the Black Sea in the script, which laps up onto Bulgaria's shores. Kristen Thomson's Drachman was not from a fictitious country but rather a very real one. Elianna Lev's review of the play has no credibility because of her sloppy mistake.

Jonathan Van Drunen

Ed's note: Hold on a sec. Who should check whose facts? Obviously Mr. Van Drunen failed his literary license class. The fictional character was in fact from the fictional country of Bulgonia. Touché sloppy man, thanks for coming out.

Homelessness a form of war on poor

I'm writing in response to the "Government allocates funds to homeless programs" article (*the Martlet*, March 14, 2002), because I believe it is imperative that we tackle our homelessness disaster from an entirely different perspective.

Firstly, it is necessary to concede that the reason for homelessness is the lack of affordable housing, especially the subsidized variety that is not subject to arbitrary rent increases. I am also repelled by the notion that single mothers are in need of "life-skills" programs basically because it implies that their homelessness is due to a personal failing. Such an attitude is commonly known as poor bashing because it blames the poor for their impoverished circumstances. However, more often than not, it's the system, rather than the individual, that's flawed. Single mothers and children may appear on the homeless scene if they get cut off welfare due to new regulations. Increasingly harsh welfare rules in the offing promise to intensify the condemnation of single moms to a lifetime of poverty, misery and failure.

Although I don't doubt that well-meaning individuals connected to social organizations want to help unfortunate families, I nevertheless do not for one moment believe that allocating funds for shelter beds and rehab programs are solutions to homelessness. Processing people through endless bureaucratic misery yields little more than a dead-end life at best. Decades of research have already well documented the consequences of human deprivation.

If the liberal government is in earnest about alleviating homelessness, then funding has to go directly to the people who need it and into permanent housing for them. Otherwise, one might very well surmise that poverty and homelessness are economic growth industries that use the poor as commodities in order to maintain the status quo. However, I doubt that anyone with a conscience can continue to go about their business with detached complacency, while the very fabric of our social order crumbles to pieces. The good people of B.C. are bound to effectively resist the mounting oppression the liberal government has in store for the most vulnerable members of society.

Phyllis Kahn

P.S.: I consider the homeless single mother ploy (sanctioned by the state poor laws) as violence against women and children. The destruction of people's lives via unjust legislation that worsens is an indication that the war on the poor has indeed escalated.

Women's work is hardly over

In the March 14, 2002, copy of *the Martlet* ["Men more oppressed"], Sébastien Markley stated that he was "not convinced" that women form an oppressed class. Oppression is not as blatant in Canada as it once was but gender-specific issues remain unresolved. In acknowledging that the face of oppression has changed in Canada, I worry that men and women will forget that domestic abuse, sexualized violence and life in poverty are still very relevant issues that women face every day.

I believe that men (and women) have every right to draw attention to problems that concern the health and well-being of men. But to do so in a way that questions the legitimacy of concerns voiced for women lacks character. It is my hope that the justification of reduced wages for women in a context of lifespan was only an obnoxious attempt to be funny. The fact that we have damn good genes is irrelevant to our demand for pay equity.

I'm a feminist by my own account and to me that means a commitment to work for the success, liberation and equality of women. Despite the prevalence of attitudes to suggest otherwise, this work is far from over.

Sonya White

Header misleading, misses point

I was pleased to see my contribution published in *the Martlet* on March 14 ["Men more oppressed"] but a little worried about the heading it was given. In order to avoid misunderstandings, I'd like to say that I certainly do not believe that men are oppressed, let alone more oppressed than women. My point was that I see feminist presuppositions (at least those which have been constantly presented to me over the four years I've been here at UVic) are distortions of social reality and, therefore, bankrupt as the bases of many of the conclusions that I hear made about society. For me to argue that the statistics I have shown demonstrate that men are more oppressed than women would be to accept a feminist line of argument that I emphatically reject. A difference in outcomes between arbitrarily defined groups does not imply oppression. The heading "Men more oppressed" should be seen as the *reductio ad absurdum* that results when such a notion is applied to real data.

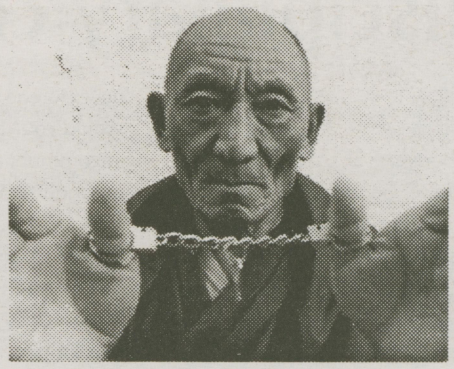
Sébastien Markley

"Sculpted pecs" candidate's slate

As a white heterosexual male at UVic I am disgusted and appalled about some of the tactics used by some of the male candidates in the past election. The men, but more specifically Neal Evans, seem to have sexually objectified and exploited themselves in order to attract votes. Slogans like "Surrender to Neal Appeal" appeared all over campus in order to sway the vote. It is not the fact that Neal Evans is a hot buff beefcake that is of concern, what is of concern is the fact that this man is buying into ideals that say men must present themselves as sex objects in order to achieve success. I support any man's choice of dress, including those that accentuate sculpted pecs and a tight firm butt; however, when a certain slate resorts to the objectification of male candidates we must question how they would have represented men on campus.

Stu Altive

This may be the best letters section all year!
please see pages 18 & 20 for more fantastic op/ed



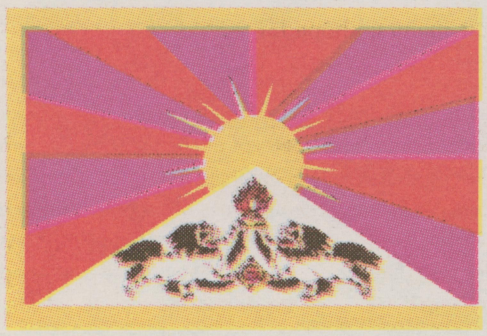
Accepting China is accepting human rights violations

"Truth – Compassion – Forbearance" was the message Falun Go Tiananmen Square by the Chinese police recently.

by Jeff Andrew

Andrea Hayley is a quiet, peaceful Victoria woman with short, wispish blonde hair and a soft voice. She's not a typical target of international surveillance and vicious police crackdowns.Yet this is exactly what she has become.

Hayley is a devout practitioner of Falun Gong, a spiritual movement which was declared illegal in China in 1999 and has since been subjected to ruthless persecution across the country. A little over a month ago she met that persecution face-to-face when she was arrested in Beijing for protesting the Chinese government's treatment of her practice.



The Tibetan flag.

The crackdown on Falun Gong is just one symptom of the brutal repression in China today. Across the country, from the mountains of Tibet to the streets of Beijing, religious persecution and police brutality are a matter of state policy. As Chinese Communist Party hardliners seek to tighten their grip on the country, dissenters of all kinds are experiencing levels of repression not seen since the days of the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989.

At the same time, China gained acceptance on the world stage and there has been growing talk among Communist Party leaders about opening parts of their economy to privatization. Foreign companies are flocking to take advantage of China's cheap, union-free labour force. Last year the International Olympic Committee awarded Beijing the 2008 Summer Games and a few months later they were accepted into the World Trade Organization (WTO).

Amid all the heady talk of opening borders and increasing trade flows, discussion of China's human rights abuses has all but stopped. With a few notable exceptions, politicians in the Western world seem reluctant to even raise the issue. As the United Nations High Commission For Human Rights prepares to meet in Geneva this month, many activists wonder whether China's human rights record will be discussed at all.

Li Hongzhi, the founder of Falun Gong (also known as Falun Dafa), envisioned a system of breathing exercises similar to Tai Chi, but with a spiritual element as well. Falun Gong practitioners are taught to follow the principle of "Truth-Compassion-Forbearance" and to seek harmony with the universe. The movement, which originated in China in 1992, spread like wildfire across the Chinese countryside and within a few years was being practised in over 50 countries around the world.

In 1999 the Chinese government conducted a study which found that there were nearly 100 million Falun Gong practitioners in China – more than the total membership of the Chinese Communist Party. Fearing that a new political movement was afoot, Chinese President Jiang Zemin quickly passed laws banning the practice of Falun Gong and began a nation-wide crackdown on the religion.

Since then an estimated 20,000 practitioners have been arrested and sentenced to prison terms in hard labour camps or state-run psychiatric wards. In its 2001 Human Rights Report, Amnesty International reported that beatings and torture of prisoners was widespread and documented 93 cases where detainees have died while in police custody as a result of suicide or torture.

In addition to the arrests, the Chinese government has begun an aggressive propaganda campaign to discredit the Falun Gong movement, labelling it an "evil cult" and charging its members with the deaths of thousands of practitioners. Across the country, high schools and universities are being called upon to ensure that their campuses are free of Falun Gong, and students are being forced to sign documents pledging not to participate in the movement. At Tsinghua University, where US President George W. Bush spoke during his recent visit to China, over 300 students and faculty have been arrested for involvement with Falun Gong.

"One by one, students and faculty who practise Falun Gong have disappeared there, some to gulags, some to jails," said Dr. Shiyu Zhou, professor at the University of Pennsylvania and Tsinghua alumnus. "All who have not renounced their beliefs have now been expelled from the university, with many being tortured and beaten in custody."

It was this persecution that drew Hayley to Beijing. Having heard reports of the crackdown on Falun Gong and horror stories of what prisoners were going through, she went to China determined to raise awareness of the problem.

She was not prepared for what awaited her.

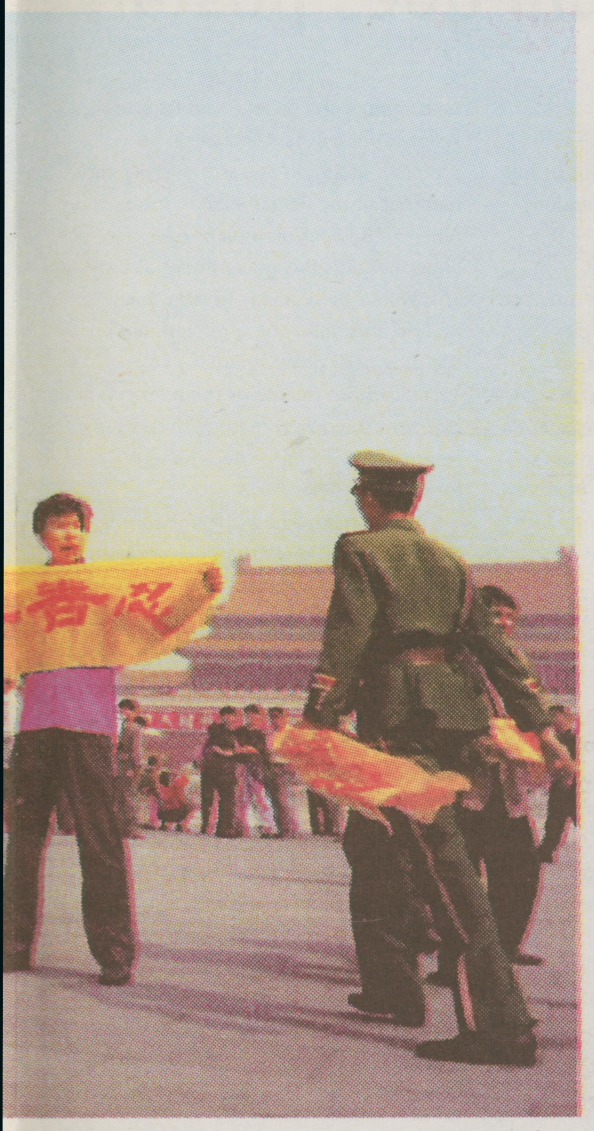
Despite travelling alone, she says she was followed almost from the moment she got off the plane. On the day of the protest, police grabbed her off the street before she even reached Tiananmen Square, telling her they knew exactly who she was and what she was planning to do. Once in jail, she managed to escape actual physical abuse but was nevertheless shaken by the experience.

"I was still shocked," she said. "As much as I had read, I was still amazed at the insipid face of the authorities: kind on the surface, vicious underneath."

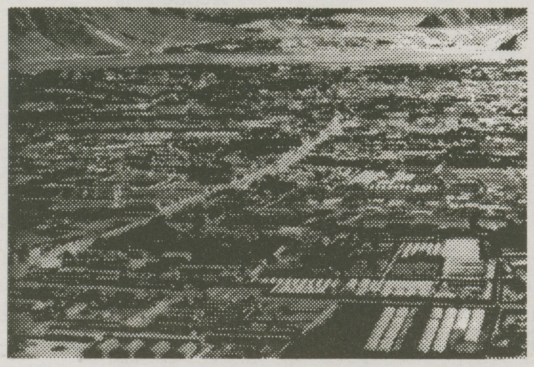
After her arrest she was held without food or water for 24 hours before being deported. She admits she was lucky; had she been Chinese, the situation might have ended very differently.

Of course, none of this is news in Tibet. Torture, political repression and religious persecution is a situation the Tibetan people have been intimately and tragically familiar with for over 50 years. Since Chairman Mao Tse-tung's People's Liberation Army invaded Tibet in 1949, the once fiercely independent nation has been subjected to wave after wave of brutal repression. The Chinese outlawed religion and forced the almost 600,000 Buddhist monks and nuns living in Tibet to make a choice: either renounce their faith and take up secular life or be thrown in prison and left to rot. Rather than give up the beliefs that had guided their culture for over a thousand years, many chose the latter. Since then over 6,000 Buddhist monasteries have been destroyed and over a million Tibetans have died as a result of the occupation. The Chinese government has also tried to seize control of Tibetan Buddhism by ordaining its own monks and nuns.

Today, Tibet is facing a wide range of problems related to the Chinese occupation – everything from environmental damage due



Gong practitioners held up as they were arrested in



all images provided

ABOVE – The Chinese prison Drapchi in Lhasa, the capital of Tibet.

FAR LEFT – Palden Gyatso, a Buddist monk, spent 33 years in a Chinese prison for refusing to renounce his faith. He was released 1992 after a vast international letter writing campaign.

to damming of rivers and clear-cutting of forests to reports of contamination from nuclear test sites. But by far the most serious is what many observers have termed "cultural genocide:" the large-scale influx of Chinese immigrants, combined with the propagandized reeducation of Tibetan people and the establishment of a massive military and police presence in Tibet.

There are currently nine million Chinese living in Tibet, compared to only six million Tibetans. The majority of Tibetans Education is done in Chinese and good jobs in the cities invariably go to the Chinese immigrants. As a result, the Tibetans have become a minority in their own country, while Tibetan culture, one of the oldest in the world, is on the verge of disappearing.

In order to enforce these changes and to maintain their stranglehold on Tibet, the Chinese military has turned Tibet into a police state. Lurking beneath the surface is a vast network of spies, informants and surveillance cameras, and a massive prison system where thousands of Tibetans languish in forced labour camps, producing goods which are later stamped "Made In China." Public demonstrations are quelled with crushing force and Tibetans can be jailed for as little as possessing a picture of the Dalai Lama, or for speaking the words "Free Tibet."

Torture, intimidation and religious persecution in China are not limited to Tibetan Buddhists and the Falun Gong. The Chinese government has been cracking down on dissenting views and practises of all kinds. Protestant and Roman Catholic organizations in China have seen scores of their members arrested in recent years, and union organizers and public protests continue to be targets of violent intimidation.

China is also using the death penalty more and more frequently. In 2001 Amnesty International reported that "China maintains the death penalty for a large number of offences, including non-violent and economic crimes such as tax, financial fraud and counterfeiting." In one three-month period in 2001 more people were executed in China than in the rest of the world for three years prior.

So, how has the world responded to all this? Geoff Whitehall, political science professor at UVic, said the Western approach has been to open a dialogue with China and to pressure them at the diplomatic and economic level.

"They claim they're dealing with it by fostering trade," he said. "The logic is 'Send it in, give the people a choice, they'll choose democracy.'"

Indeed, Western countries have been warming up to the Chinese, as evidenced by the increasing trade flows and China's acceptance into the WTO.

They also appear to be making an effort, at least on the surface, to pay closer attention to the human rights situation in China. For example, in 1997 American President Bill Clinton assigned a Special Co-ordinator from the State Department to the Tibet issue and many European countries have made similar steps.

TC Tethong, a retired Victoria resident and former foreign minister for the Tibetan Government In Exile, believes this approach is having an effect.

"This sends a signal to the Chinese," he said. "It says that we are there, we are paying attention. It won't solve all the problems in Tibet but it at least means China will think twice before they do anything in Tibet."

Others aren't so sure. Many activists, and even some politicians, believe that Western countries are merely paying lip service to human rights issues. They may be right – at this point, the United Nations has been unable to pass a resolution condemning China's human rights record and when the decisions about the Beijing Olympics and China's acceptance into the WTO were made, there was little discussion of human rights issues.

Dr. Keith Martin, member of parliament for Esquimalt-Juan De Fuca, sees this as a sign that Canada and its allies lack the political backbone to stand up to the Chinese.

"These abuses are unacceptable," said Martin. "The fact that it still goes on means we don't have the political will to back up our Charter of Rights. All our human rights agreements aren't worth the paper they're written on if we don't back them up."

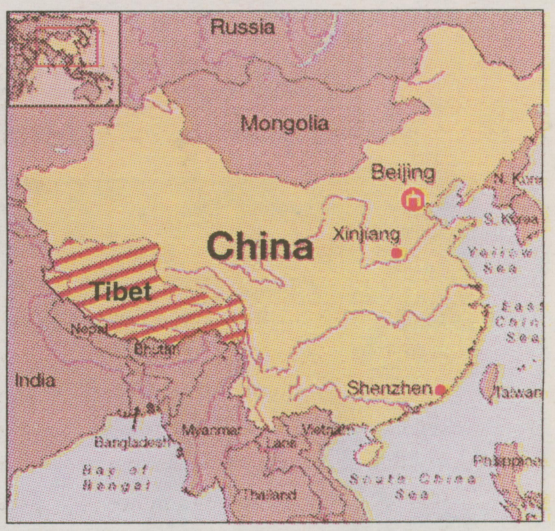
Some believe that Western politicians are simply more concerned with making money than improving people's lives. Prof. Whitehall said that, at the world government level, human rights issues have become just another political playing card, to be dealt when needed.

"They strategically ignore it, then strategically use it when it suits them," he said. "Trade goes on."

He also believes it's a mistake to expect Western nations to care about human rights at all, since many of them have been and continue to be guilty of similar atrocities. He points to European colonialism, the United States' takeover of Hawaii in the late 19th century and the CIA-sponsored coups in Latin America as examples.

"Why would you expect them to be worried about human rights, or the Chinese occupying another country, when they do the same shit?"

So, as the leaders of the United Nations arrive in Geneva this week, the issue of China's human rights abuses may not be a concern. Activist groups like Amnesty International, Students For A Free Tibet and Falun Gong practitioners around the globe are doing their part to raise awareness of the problems, but it remains to be seen whether any meaningful action will be taken by the world's leaders. Nevertheless, many of those who have dedicated their lives to the struggle maintain hope for the future.



"I don't foresee an independent Tibet right away, nor an end to the other problems," said TC Tethong. "Not unless something drastic happens in China. But I believe there will be more powerful countries in the future, that will not play this half-half game with China. We will see our freedom eventually."

SFU geology students strike a pose in racy calendar

by Kris Lind

BURNABY, B.C. (CUP) – Female members of Simon Fraser University's earth sciences student union are taking off their clothes to raise money for field trips.

Women from the Society of Pre-Apocalyptic Neo-Catastrophists – the departmental student union – will appear in various degrees of undress in the group's "Girls of Earth Sciences Calendar."

"I came up with the idea for this," said SPANC member Victoria Stevens. "At first I meant it as a joke but then I got lots of positive feedback for the idea."

"There's no full nudity," said SPANC member Britta Jensen, who is also the president of the university's student association. "Everything is tastefully covered up. I just did mine (photo shoot) today.

"A lot of girls were apprehensive at first but as soon as you get them in front of a camera they become superstars."

Asked just how racy the pictures will be, Stevens explains, "The girl can do whatever she is comfortable with. Sometimes she'll be covered in clothes, sometimes in strategically placed field gear.

"Everyone in geography or geology will know what the instruments are for," she adds.

The photos are shot in outdoor locations.

"It's been a lot of fun," said SPANC member Laura Laurenzi. "Some pretty cool bonding has been going on."

Stevens says the group has had some interesting encounters with the public.

"A few pot smokers who were looking for a quiet place to smoke up came across us instead when we were shooting down on the beach," she added.

Asked if any men would appear in the calendar, Jensen remarked, "Well, this is the 'Girls of Earth Sciences' calendar. We were thinking of getting a couple of guys to go drag but we didn't think that they would want to be seen like that for a full month."

This year's field geology trip is to the Yukon and students are planning to go to Scotland next year.

Earth sciences departmental assistant Leigh McGregor said the field students would do a geological transect through central and northern Scotland from Glasgow to Inverness. They would view a wide variety of rock types and tectono-geomorphological features such as Loch Ness and outcrops studied by the Scottish geologist James Hutton.

"We think it's great," said McGregor of the calendar initiative. "Good for them. There's too many candy bars and chocolates out there to buy."

The calendars will be available beginning March 28 at an earth sciences social for approximately $12. Spanc is looking for two more female earth sciences students willing to pose for the calendar.

"The girls in the department are strong and outgoing and obnoxiously sexy," said Jensen, "so we just wanted to do something that would play on that."

Referendum goes postal

By Stephen Hui

BURNABY, B.C. (CUP) – The B.C. government will begin mailing out ballots April 2 for the controversial referendum on treaty negotiations with First Nations.

Voters will be faced with eight individual principles to guide the province in treaty negotiations. The principles pertain to property, land use and tax issues.

"I deeply hope that when votes are counted, this will be British Columbia's mandate for negotiating treaties that work for all British Columbians," said Premier Gordon Campbell to the legislative assembly on March 13.

However, the two NDP MLAs were vocal in their opposition to the referendum.

"This referendum does nothing to enhance our economy. It does nothing to enhance bringing about justice for First Nations. It doesn't bring about fairness for any British Columbians," said Joy MacPhail. "British Columbians, I urge you to ridicule this referendum in every imaginable, creative way you can."

The First Nations Summit, which represents aboriginal groups involved in the B.C. treaty negotiations process, is calling for a boycott of the referendum and is discussing methods of protest and civil disobedience.

"I would say that the best thing would be to ignore the ballot," said Eldon Yellowhorn, assistant archaeology professor at Simon Fraser University and member of the Peigan Nation from Alberta. "British Columbians have a lot of anger towards this government already. This would be one way to turn this around and make this a referendum on the provincial government."

Yellowhorn maintains the referendum indicates the government is shirking its responsibility to move negotiations forward.

"They already know the answer they want. But they know that a clear question is not going to get them that answer, so they phrase the answer in such a way that it incorporates ambiguity, confusion and distorts the actual meaning of the results of the referendum so that they can benefit."

Glen Campbell, coordinator of the Aboriginal Political Action Committee and a member of the Musqueam Nation, is advocating a spoilt-ballot campaign. He says boycotting the referendum is tantamount to passive consent of the results. The committee is planning to set up a Web site with stickers for voters to download and use to spoil their mail-in ballots.

Ballots must be returned by May 15.

Alberta student paper wins independence

by Jhenifer Pabillano and Neil Parmar

EDMONTON (CUP) – After a tumultuous two-year battle, the student newspaper at the University of Alberta has won independence from the university's student association.

Until last week the *Gateway* was the largest non-autonomous campus newspaper in Canada, owned and published by the student union for nearly a century.

However, during last week's student union general election, 71.4 per cent of student voters supported a referendum question to make the *Gateway* a separate entity.

"Finally, we're free to pursue [our ideals] without having to go through miles of red tape and a mountain of bureaucracy," said Dan Lazin, former editor-in-chief and campaign manager for the *Gateway*'s autonomy drive.

The *Gateway* attempted to secure independence from the student union last year but failed to get the question on the ballot after the union ruled the paper hadn't collected the number of signatures needed to bring the issue to referendum.

This year a new autonomy petition carried 2,700 valid student signatures, enough to get the referendum question on the ballot.

"It was the hardest-fought battle of anything I've ever been involved in," said current *Gateway* editor-in-chief Dave Alexander.

"We went through the process and I feel we played fair the entire time. There seemed to be an obstacle and a roadblock at every turn.

"It was really won through the perseverance of a really strong staff and volunteer base, and especially through Dan's hard work."

The motivation for autonomy, explained Lazin, was due largely to editorial concerns.

Student union ownership of the paper often caused pressures that led to conflicts of interest when producing the newspaper, said Lazin.

"The editors and volunteers are going to be able to do their job without having to worry about anything other than coming up with the best, truest, most accurate, interesting stories.

"There's no longer the same kind of concern of where what we write today will mean that the salary review committee will meet tomorrow," he said.

As an autonomous body, the *Gateway* will undergo organizational changes to survive as a business in the coming years.

A new body called the Gateway Journalism Society will supervise the paper's finances and ensure it remains accountable to students. Three new positions will also be added to manage the *Gateway*'s business affairs.

The new structure mirrors that of the *Gauntlet*, the University of Calgary's student newspaper. The *Gauntlet* became autonomous through referendum in 1988, a move it says has been a success.

"We're a very financially stable paper. We have a full-time business staff who handle advertising, and it allows us to concentrate on editorial content," said Mike Leung, the *Gauntlet*'s editor-in-chief.

"It's hard when someone pulls the strings," he added. "We had a story this year where there was a slashing at [a student union-owned] campus bar. The student union was saying, 'No, this would be bad press.' But we ran it on the cover and we had strong reasons. It was an important story that needed to be covered, and students should have known about it. We said, 'Sorry, but this is our responsibility,' and they couldn't stop us.

"It might have been different if they had more leverage on us."

Although the election results are not yet official due to recounts in other races, it is unlikely the *Gateway* referendum result will be changed.

The next step in the process is negotiation of the transfer of assets from the student union to the *Gateway*. If a compromise is not reached by July 1, both parties will go to binding arbitration.

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Baby, you can't drive my car

(but you can have your picture taken with it)

by Robin Platts

The most famous car in Victoria sits in a nondescript garage on Chatham Street, just off Douglas. If you don't look carefully, you'll miss Bristol Motors. But, if you're a Beatles fan, it's well worth stopping by. Inside this inconspicuous building, you'll find John Lennon's psychedelic Rolls-Royce.

You walk in the door and you might be in any old auto repair shop. But you see it right away, just behind the counter, staring back at you in its trippy technicolour splendour. It looks as though it had just cruised out of the Beatles' animated feature Yellow Submarine.

Unassumingly, the Rolls sits in the crowded garage, surrounded by cardboard boxes and old car parts. Just behind it, an Austin Mini with its engine half-dismantled, and a vintage Ford.

In the middle of the clutter sits the Lennon car, a 1965 Phantom V model. Even in this slightly undignified setting, it still outshines its surroundings. The 19-foot vehicle sports a yellow background adorned with multiple psychedelic flourishes of green, gold, orange, red and blue. There's barely enough room to open the doors, but visitors aren't supposed to get inside – or even touch – the precious vehicle anyway.

The fanciful colour scheme does not extend to the interior of the Rolls. Within, the car is black and grey. There are a few internal modifications that hint at the car's erstwhile owner: a reclining backseat, a series of speakers, an eight-track tape deck and a cabinet in which, presumably, Lennon's portable television once sat.

Bristol Motors, at 629 Chatham Street, has housed the Lennon Rolls since 1993.

How did this piece of rock and roll history end up here?

The long and winding road that led to Bristol Motors began at Rolls-Royce Motor Cars Ltd in Crewe, England, in 1965. Flush with cash after a couple of years of Beatlemania, John Lennon took delivery of the Phantom V, then sporting a traditional black paint job.

> An elderly woman attacked Lennon's Rolls with her umbrella, shouting "You swine! How dare you do this to a Rolls-Royce?"

Although Lennon kept the car's exterior black for a couple of years, he made plenty of internal modifications. He had a Sterno radio telephone installed at the end of 1965, and 1966 saw the addition of a television, sound system and portable refrigerator.

In April 1967, amidst the bright colours of the Hippie movement, Lennon decided he was tired of the car's black paint job. He recruited a team of Dutch designers – collectively known as The Fool – to repaint the Rolls in a style more befitting the era. By the time the "Summer of Love" rolled around later that year, Lennon's car was a full-blown psychedelic work of art.

Although pleasing to the younger set, some British citizens were outraged at the colourful makeover. An elderly woman attacked Lennon's Rolls with her umbrella, shouting "You swine! How dare you do this to a Rolls-Royce?"

In 1970 he had the Rolls shipped to the United States, where the Rolling Stones, Bob Dylan and the Moody Blues used it. At the end of 1977 problems with the Internal Revenue Service prompted Lennon to donate the Rolls to New York's Cooper-Hewitt Museum (part of the Smithsonian Institute) in exchange for a $225,000 tax credit. The museum displayed the Rolls for a few months, then put it in storage due to the prohibitive insurance costs required to keep it on display.

In 1985 the museum put the car up for auction. It sold for an amazing $2,299,000 to Vancouver businessman Jim Pattison, who, in 1987, donated the car to the Province of British Columbia. In 1993 the Phantom V was transferred from the Transportation Museum of British Columbia in Cloverdale to the Royal British Columbia Museum in Victoria, in whose hands it has remained ever since. John Lennon's Rolls has spent most of the last nine years at Bristol Motors.

"It's too big for our galleries," explained Lee Valentine, the Royal B.C. Museum's board coordinator. "The size of it precludes us from putting it on display, except in certain areas. We have had it on display for open houses and that kind of thing, in the lobby area. But, with the light exposure, it can't stay there for long."

As impressive as its psychedelic coat is, it is also fragile, since The Fool made the mistake of using latex paint. According to Valentine, latex is "not the strongest and most stable paint. Sunlight, rain – all those things damage it."

The Rolls will soon be taking a trip down to the United States. An individual from New York has just leased the vehicle, so it will soon be backing out of Bristol Motors and returning to Lennon's adopted hometown. Valentine won't name the New Yorker who's currently leasing the Rolls, saying only that it's "someone with a strong Beatles interest," and it isn't Yoko Ono. The Rolls costs about $10,000 U.S. per month to lease, but you can see it for free at Bristol Motors.

However, a few rules apply. "You can't touch it," said Aikins. "You can't get in it. You can't open the doors. But you can certainly take a good look at it and I've taken photographs of people standing beside it."

photo by Graham Winterbottom

John Lennon's flashy Rolls Royce has found a home at Bristol Motors on Chatham St. in Victoria.

Bars for girls who aren't bar stars

by Joy Waller

What do most of Victoria's 15 nightclubs and 46 pubs have in common? The term "meat market."

Take a peek inside the doors of most of these venus, and expect to be blinded by a tableau of young women in bikini tops and tight pants, dancing on raised stages or "girls only" dance floors. A great idea for some . . . but what about those of us who don't want the spotlight or the attention and just want to go to the bar for a drink and a good time?

Thursday's Sports Bar, located at 1821 Cook Street, is a great place to start. This neighbourhood pub has the dual charm of being both unpretentious and home to an ever-changing selection of independent rock and folk bands, including the infamous Sunday afternoon Hootenanny. The pub's most attractive feature, however, is the Tuesday evening Drinko Bingo event, during which the entire bar is given 50-cent game cards and a cup of pennies and led through a lively game of bingo. Winners receive alcoholic prizes.

For a more dance-oriented atmosphere, try going to 1325 Government Street, home of Hush, which is one of Victoria's few gay-friendly dance clubs. The bouncers here can be a little standoffish, but make your way past them and even the most "over-dressed" woman will feel at home in the dim lights and superior quality techno.

"Girls often go to Hush to experience great music and dancing without the worry of guys hitting on them," says Ben Rawluk, a frequent patron. "It's a relaxed atmosphere."

Another relaxed atmosphere can be found at Strathcona Hotel's Big Bad John's (BBJ's) located at 919 Douglas Street. This redneck pub gives you an immediate idea of the atmosphere with the sign "Sorry, we're open" affixed to the front door. BBJ's is a place where you can sit in a crowded booth with a pint of brew in one hand and a pint of peanuts in the other. Peanut shells can be tossed on the floor; they'll be swept up by the staff at closing time. The bartenders are notoriously rude – good luck getting a free drink on your birthday from this bunch – and a food menu is available until 10 p.m. The ceiling rafters feature a collection of former patrons' bras, and a donation may be left at any time.

Yukon Jack's Saloon & Grille, on the ground level of the Douglas Hotel on the corner of Douglas and Pandora, is a pub whose claim to fame is the Thursday, Friday and Saturday night karaoke extravaganzas. A mix of regulars, newcomers and staff take turns belting out tunes on a wooden floor that doubles as the dance floor. Yukon Jack's also features several tvs and an NTN Trivia system that allows you to play on-line trivia against both your fellow bar-goers and the patrons of pubs around the world.

Evolution is perhaps the finest dance club in Victoria for women who want to dance while wearing casual clothing. Evolution patrons generally dress in any style from jeans to leather, bypassing the halter top-mini skirt scene. The interior of this bar is dim and welcoming, as is the chalkboard featuring the nightly drink specials – including $5 triples on Sunday nights. The staff here are friendly, and the music is a mix of alternative, punk and industrial, with live dj's scratching out drum and bass on Thursday nights. Evolution is located at 502 Discovery Street.

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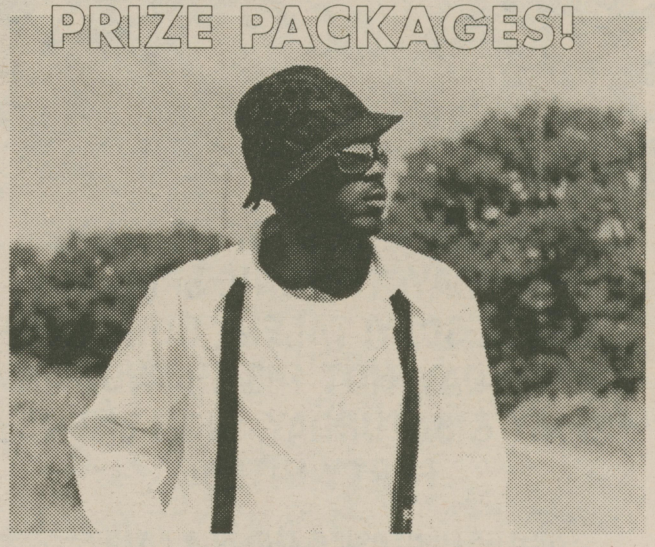


Be one of the first two people (19+) to come down to the Martlet office with the correct answer to the following question...

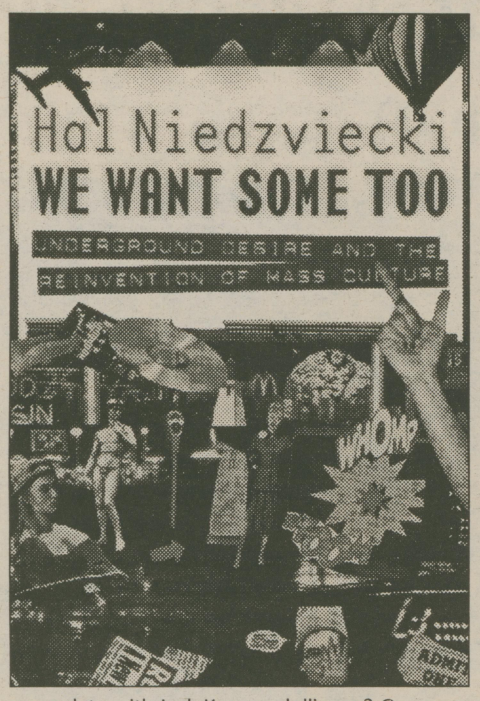
What Toronto dj opened for Choclair when he last played in Victoria?

and you'll win one of two prize packages consisting of two tickets to see Choclair at Legends on Monday April 8th and a copy of Choclair's latest cd *Memoirs Of Blake Savage*.

A voice for the frappuccino generation

We Want Some Too
Hal Niedzviecki

by Joanna Wong



"In a world where jeans come out of the factory newly ripped and faded," writes Hal Niedzviecki, "it's hardly surprising that young people are searching for ways to assert the authenticity of their culture, of their lives."

In *We Want Some Too*, Niedzviecki dives headfirst with snappy, breathless prose into a strange world of compulsive pez dispenser collectors, angst-ridden trekkies, black-flag waving anarchists, frustrated zinesters and would-be creatives stuck in crappy, menial jobs. This new "nexus" generation, born into a society of cocoa puffs, frappuccinos, Internet porn and endless sitcom reruns, is creepy, strange and disturbingly familiar. Niedzviecki, 29, asserts that 20- and 30-somethings have been seduced by pop's empty promises into believing that they too can bask in the fulfilling orgasmic glory that is independent creative expression.

Inevitably these "lifestyle culturites" wake up the morning after in corporate culture's bed feeling unsatisfied, disappointed and alone.

A strange mix of journalist, columnist, zinester, cultural theorist, social critic, award-winning novelist and slacker, Niedzviecki has been reluctantly dubbed by the media as an "alternative culture guru." Niedzviecki's hipster title only reinforces one of the major points his book is making, namely that the romantic notion of an "underground" is a myth happily repackaged and resold to us by the mainstream culture industry. What's an activist to do when even the local corporate-chain bookstore has a section devoted to so-called "outpost" independent literature complete with Jack Kerouac lollipops? Or when everything from grunge to gay rights has been sloganized, digitally re- mastered and turned into a made-for-tv movie? Do something, do anything that can't be decoded and marketed back to you, writes Niedzviecki.

What people are doing ranges from the wacky and the wonderful to the just plain weird. Like the middle-aged guy in Pennsylvania who still lives in his parents' basement and spends his time collecting Tarzan memorabilia in hopes of opening a museum (he's got 40,000 items so far). Or the gentleman from Albany who has dedicated the past few years trying to turn himself into a lizard by implanting Teflon in his head, filing his teeth into fangs and covering his body in tattoos of reptilian scales. These people aren't just freaky losers, writes Niedzviecki, they represent a generation which is desperately trying to access and make sense of popular culture, that twilight zone parallel universe that can seem as real and as important as our everyday lives.

Of course, many social activists of the *No Logo* set worry that Niedzviecki's youthful, caffeine-infused manifesto has sugar-coated the main point – that lifestyle culture itself is a part of a reaction to the greater problem of capitalist oppression. Even Niedzviecki seems to grapple with this paradox, yo-yo-ing between recognizing the influence pop has had on our collective consciousness and raging about the manipulative circus that is the culture industry. To be fair, Niedzviecki is not just taking on the monolithic corporate mainstream and the likes of Britney Spears, *Temptation Island* and *Booty Call 2*. He's tackling the complex, multi-layered entity of pop culture that is itself pretty contradictory. Any conclusions or insights to be offered can hardly be wrapped up to go in three hundred pages.

So if we can't beat 'em and don't want to join 'em, what exactly *are* we supposed to do? A true postmodern theory junkie, Niedzviecki writes that in our information age there is no truth, no product, no "real thing." We're all on equal footing with "the big boys" of mass culture and have an equal capacity to reinvent and be reinvented. Rejecting the cult of the "expert," Niedzviecki says yeah, make that grainy indie movie, write that manuscript, record that folk-funk-country song. By subverting how we relate to and make pop culture, we will begin what Niedzviecki sees as a "cultural renaissance of unprecedented proportions." In other words, we – all of us artists, musicians, writers and thinkers – will get to rewrite the scripts of our own lives, choose the cast, compose the soundtrack and, hopefully, direct the action.

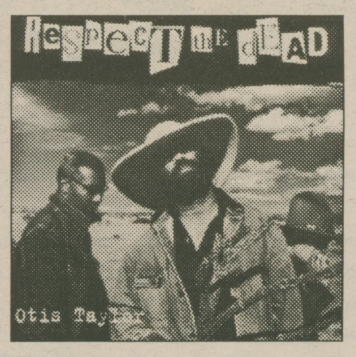
CD REVIEWS

by Matt Bigelow

Wyckham Porteus
Sexanddrinking
Cordova Bay Publishing

Sexanddrinking kicks off with an upbeat-stoner-funk groove that is light on the ears without busy drums and soloing guitars. Local artist Dyhan Roberts' spoken word spews forth dirty and romantic poetry about polluted alleyways in Europe. In the title track, Roberts says "The streets were as thin as my boots slipping along Shakespeare's alley/toward throat slit goats blood."

After the first song, the album quickly goes downhill. Cheesy ballads, alt-rock grooves, ineffective guitar hooks and listless vocals dominate the rest of the album. The song-writing is solid and well thought out but isn't powerful and doesn't push any borders, which makes it boring.



Otis Taylor
Respect the Dead
NorthernBlues Music

This album focuses on a more folk-oriented blues sound, instead of the electric sound that dominates today's genre. Lead guitar, bass, rhythm guitar, banjo and smoky vocals compose the ensemble. No drums. Simple songs. The sort of stuff that you would hear on a front porch in Arizona during the great depression.

The writing is solid, intelligent and humble. Otis Taylor offers the sort of advice that a large biker would offer while in a sentimental mood. "Some people, some people, they just wanna hurt you."

If you dig folk-blues with banjos and harmonicas that endeavor to offer a solid, honest blues feel, get it.

Wandering into the past at "The Things We Do"

by Miranda Post

When I was a little girl my grandma made me soap berry ice cream and treated my bee stings with chewed up, wild rosehips. The rosehips tasted sweet and sour, but soothed the most-welted of stings. The ice cream was actually a light foam of mushed berries that was intolerably bitter without cups of sugar.

My grandma was born on the biggest ranch in Canada, the Gang, of a scottish father and Chilcotin/Secwepemc mother. I grew up around friends who went to pow-wows and knew how to tan deer hide. Where I come from, Saskatoon berry picking and salmon barbecues are annual summer events. My hometown is in the heart of the Nkla'pamux nation, adjacent to the biggest of British Columbia's interior nations, the Secwepemc.

Entering the House of First Voices/ First People's Cultural Foundation (FPCF) just off Bastion Square in Helmcken Alley was like going home. On display until March 30 is a photo exhibit called "Re tsuwet.s re Secwepemc: The Things we Do." Borrowed from the Kamloops Art Gallery and the Secwepemc Cultural Education Society the exhibit of familiar scenes and landscapes triggered memories of museum trips, visits to friends' and of my grandma's stories.

> In each group [of photos] I could see glimpses of my grandma and flashes of a culture that barely touches her (my) everyday life anymore.

The exhibit is set up in groups of photos. To the right of the first set of photos just inside the door are programs that describe each photo. If you wander clockwise around the cedar-scented gallery from the door, the program guides you through the progression of th exhibit.

Photos of Sxusem cream (or soap berry ice cream as my gram calls it), regal portraits of past chiefs and snaps of the female elders like Rosie Sargent or Pauline Baptiste, line the bright green walls. Some of the photos on display date back to the 1800s, some taken as recently as 1996. Photos of traditional ceremonies and adopted ones hang, giving a visual colonial history of the Secwepemc people. In each group I could see glimpses of my grandma and flashes of a culture that barely touches her (my) everyday life anymore.

Sepia-coloured 100-year-old studio photos and moody orange and red-hued shots of the Thompson river dot illustrate the size and beauty of the Secwepemc nation that stretches from the Gang Ranch in the West to edges of Kootenay National Park in the East, Valemont to the North and Falkland to the South.

Besides grandeur and celebration, the prevalent theme of "The Things We Do" is just that. Moments of Secwepemc life are freeze-framed showing the most intimate of life's details. Hide tanning, birchbark collecting and salmon fishing shots are intermingled with school photos and family portraits. Even if you are not from the interior and you know nothing about Secwepemc culture this show is one of the most sublime and 'must-see' exhibits in Victoria, now if they could only serve up some little samples of Sxusem cream for visitors to try.

For more info call 361-3456 or visit www.fpcf.ca or mosey on down to #31 Bastion Square.

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Lesbian photo exhibit hopes to dispel homophobia

by Jennifer Evans

Photographs capturing lesbian life will be on display for the first time April 12-19 at the University of Victoria Student Union Building in order to promote community awareness of lesbianism.

Valerie Williams, who helped plan the photo exhibit entitled "Out of the Closet and In Your Face," described the show as having a two-tiered approach. "The first tier is to start a community awareness and dialogue about lesbianism through our call for submissions. The second tier is to actually address and confront homophobia through the images in the exhibit," said Williams.

The show is being geared towards lesbian visibility, said Kaylie Ingram, who also helped plan the event. Submissions have been requested from both UVic students and community members, with publicity about the event appearing in Victoria newspapers, magazines and radio stations.

Ingram explained that lesbianism is "another reality out there," with images in the exhibit portraying lesbians as normal people doing everyday things like sitting on the toilet or having a cup of coffee.

She said the exhibit challenges people to think about lesbianism.

Meghan Blackburn submitted her photo in order to stay in touch with herself and her own diversity. This exhibit "makes people think about their lives and what they are doing with them," said Blackburn.

Ingram said that at least 10 people are submitting photos and that interest in the exhibit is still growing. Although the community's response has been very receptive so far, Williams and Ingram have run into some problems with people who voiced negative feelings. "One man told me, that he supported 'my kind,'" said Williams. "Homophobia is gross and people need to realize that it affects everyone."

Williams and Ingram hope to "demystify the lesbian experience," by challenging the stereotypes and internalized homophobia people have while celebrating lesbian life. The exhibit emerged as a final project for Sinister Wisdom, a women's studies class taught by Debby Yaffe.

Submissions will be accepted until March 30. For further information, contact submissions@technodyke.com

photo by Valerie Williams

Campus culture calendar

MUSIC

Fridaymusic
School of Music composition students present their work on Friday, March 22, 12:30 p.m. @Phillip T. Young Hall. Admission by donation.

University of Victoria Wind Symphony
A Tribute to Humanity
Dr. Gerald N. King, conductor; Scott Adlerman & Verna Ahner, graduate assistant conductors; works include Karel Husa's *Music for Prague 1968*, Friday, March 22, 8:00 p.m. @ University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Admission: $10 & $8 for students.

Graduating Composer's Concert II
Featuring Christopher Norma, Ph.D. and Michael Maw, B.Mus., Saturday, March 23, 8:00 p.m.@ University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Free admission.

UVic Percussion Ensemble
An evening of Edgard Varèse, directed by Bill Linwood, Sunday, March 24, 8:00 p.m. @ University Centre Farquhar Auditorium. Admission by donation.

UVic School of Music Swing Dance Fundraiser
Event features UVic's Big Band & UVic dance club swing dancers, Wednesday, March 27, doors open at 8:00 p.m. @ the Velox, 3957 Gordon Head Rd., tickets: $5.

WRITING

Reading
Celebrated writer, scholar, activist and member of Okanagan First Nation Jeannette Armstrong, Thursday, March 21, 1:30 p.m. @ CIT, room110, all welcome! Free admission.

Inner Harbour Review book launch
IHR is an annual anthology of student work published by the UVic Writing Student Union. There will be student readings and an art display. Tuesday, March 26, 7 p.m. @Open Space, 510 Fort St. Admission by donation.

THEATRE

Peer Gynt
UVic Theatre Department presents Henrik Ibsen's 19th-century classic comedy *Peer Gynt*, directed by Brian Richmond. March 14 - 30, Tuesdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m., matinee performance on Sat., March 23, 2 p.m. Admission: $18; half price ($9) for students, excluding Friday and Saturday nights.

submit your event info to martletart@yahoo.ca

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Going medieval at the Saanich Fair Grounds

Last weekend, *Martlet* sportswriter Julia Smith attended an event straight out of the history books. Luckily, she brought her camera and notepad. Come along for the ride as we get medieval on your ass.

by Julia Smith

"You should put the helmet on and let someone bang on your head."

Gwyn and Fritz smiled at me and assured me it wouldn't hurt. Both had gathered at the Saanich Fair Grounds for the Daffodil tournament hosted by the Kingdom of An Tir, which includes the UVic Medieval Club.

Dressed in body armor, Gwyn and Fritz were ready to take part in the medieval martial art of heavy fighting.

After Gwyn and Fritz assured me that the armor was extremely protective, I considered taking up the sport myself. That is, until I witnessed the first fight.

The barn was instantly filled with deafening thuds as the opponents began to attack each other with the full force of their britan swords and glaves. Within a minute one person lay "dead" on the ground.

I grew especially worried when Gwyn, who stands roughly 5'4", entered the ring against a 6'6" giant.

Gwyn and Fritz, also known as Natasha Slik and Ted Zimmers, are members of the Society for Creative Anachronism, a medieval club dedicated to reenacting the Middle Ages. The club partakes in singing, dancing, story telling, armory and crafts, but Gwyn and Fritz came for the sport of heavy fighting.

The contestants were paired up to duel. Using a sword or spear, they fought to the death.

Deaths and injuries are on the honor system. If one opponent hits the other hard enough on the arm, the wounded folds her arm behind her and fights without it. If legs are hit the fighter continued from his knees.

A shot to the torso or head means falling to the ground in a pretence of death. In the tournament each contestant was allowed to die twice before being eliminated.

Fritz assured me that no one he knows has truly died from the sport and in the last five years there have only been eight serious injuries.

Aethelerd the Cloud Breaker (the same giant that Gwyn had to fight) won the Daffodil Tournament. In celebration, five of the fighters dog-piled on top of him, forgetting they were wearing heavy body armor.

Fighters must wear armor that covers the head, elbows, hands, wrists and knees, but most wear enough to protect their torso and upper legs as well.

The Daffodil Tournament boasted a few knights resembling Lancelot in classic metal armor. Gwyn's armour was made of plastic, but she admitted a secret ambition for a titanium sports bra.

The fighters must also practice extensively before they are allowed to compete. Heavy fighting practices are held twice weekly at UVic.

Newcomers first beat up on a pole and then begin to work with more experienced fighters. Veteran fighters eventually observe the newcomers' technique for safety purposes.

Though there is no designated instructor or coach, the fighters help each other and use a manual to practice moves properly.

The manual contains authentic fighting techniques, but Gwyn admits that the martial art has changed since the Middle Ages. New techniques have been developed and rules prohibit some of the original moves and weapons, such as hitting someone in the back with a morning star.

photo by Julia Smith

Here, two members of the Society for Creative Anachronism battle it out for the illustrious Daffodil Tournament championship. The tournament's combatants, heavily padded, fought for supremacy using britan swords and glaves.

Diary of a Final Four junkie

by Iain McLetchie

There's no point in beating around the bush, so I won't. My March Madness pool is completely shot.

It all started last Thursday. I had just returned home from classes to find Gonzaga was losing to Wyoming late in the second half. 'Twould seem the Bulldogs, who ranked sixth in the West region, had turned into a toothless Bichon Frise overnight, unable to mount any offence against Wyoming.

Gonzaga was hampered by the transformation of First-Team All-American Dan Dickau, who evolved from a three-point stud into a British bricklayer, shooting 6-for-23 from the field in the loss.

Now, that news wouldn't have been so bad, except that I had the Zags going to the Final Four. Oh my.

I did, however, get lucky when I picked 12th-ranked Missouri to beat Miami in the first round. All the pundits were picking them, so why shouldn't I? Sure enough, the Tigers won, and continued to do so, upsetting fourth-ranked Ohio State in the next match.

The announcers proclaimed that Missouri had "played two perfect matches" that weekend. One would have been enough for my pool. Good for them. Bad for me.

On the bright side, though, Missouri could definitely be the tourney Cinderella, seeing as they face eighth-ranked, and highly-combustible, UCLA Bruins in the next round – a match that Mizzou could easily win.

The Bruins made it to the Sweet Sixteen after a thrilling double-OT win over top-ranked Cincinnati. This match featured two badly-coiffed coaches in Bryl-creamed Steve Lavin and blow-dried Bob Huggins.

Huggins, who is known for running a notoriously corrupt program in Cincy, was looking slightly rumpled by the end of this match. UCLA's win further cemented those Biblical axioms: "Be sure your zero-graduation rate will find you out," and, "The wages of under-the-table payments are an early exit from the NCAA tournament."

But enough about the West Region. To the South we go.

St. Patrick's Day may have been last Sunday, but Notre Dame seemed to get an early dose of Irish luck the day before, when they had top-ranked Duke tied at 75 with a minute left. Unfortunately for the Fighting Irish, their pot of gold turned out to be of the fool's variety, as Duke held on for an 83-77 victory.

With Southern Cal losing in the first round (another sad moment for my pool), Duke has a fairly easy route to the Final Four. That is, unless the Kent State Golden Flashes keep up their strong play of late.

Kent State, a school best known for its bloody Vietnam protest in 1970, upset second-ranked Alabama in the round of 32, and have most of southern Ohio in a frenzy right now. The Flashes play Pitt next round and should have a good chance for an upset.

Either way, I won't win, seeing as both California and 'Bama are out of the tourney, dammit.

Fortunately for my pool, the East and Midwest Regions haven't seen too many upsets, but there's definitely a Cinderella in full-bore in the East.

The Southern Illinois Fighting Salukis are in the Sweet Sixteen following victories over Texas Tech and Georgia.

What's a Saluki? Well, according to the dictionary it's "a very old breed of hound, having feathered ears, tail and legs." I'd like to know who thought up that name. Regardless, the feathered hounds are ripping up the East Region but might have a tough time when they face the UConn Huskies, who are ranked second in the region.

On another note, we're just now seeing the development of Oregon into a full-fledged athletic powerhouse, with both football and basketball teams in the top 10. I guess with $40 million a year from Phil Knight, founder and CEO of Nike, you'd better be good.

After all that, I may as well re-predict my Final Four. Duke can't help but make it out of the South Region. None of the remaining three teams out there have what it takes to beat the bejesus out of the Blue Devils.

Maryland will win the East Region, but I sure wish the Fighting Salukis would. I also wish for a less-hairy back and Tracy McGrady's athletic ability.

Kansas is simply too good to not win the Midwest, but I think Oregon will give them a run. Any team with a 7'2" centre always has a chance of moving on up.

The West Region is a little topsy-turvy though. I fancy Arizona will smack Oklahoma around, if only because I saw Salim Stoudamire, Arizona's freshman guard (and Damon's cousin), play in a high school tournament in Portland last winter. Trust me, he's pretty darn good.

Arizona should then pound Missouri (who I'm taking over UCLA) to make the Final Four.

Who wins it all? I'd better not guess but I sure wish Gonzaga were still around so I could say they will. Dammit.

Vikes take fourth at CIS Final Eight

by Craig Battle

The UVic Vikes men's basketball season came to an end a few seconds too soon this past weekend in Halifax.

The Vikes, who went into the Canadian Intervarsity Sport (CIS) national championships ranked eighth of eight, lost out to the Western Mustangs in the final minutes of the opening round and ended their drive for a CIS record ninth national championship.

"It's a game of inches," said UVic head coach Guy Vetrie. "Three or four possessions really doomed our defeat. We executed, played hard, boarded well, but the ball didn't fall for us."

UVic and Western kept it tight until the final buzzer. The two teams traded the momentum, as well as the lead, like a hot potato throughout the first half.

With the score tied at 14 halfway through the opening frame, UVic scored nine unanswered points to go ahead 23-14. The Mustangs countered with an 11-2 run of their own to knot the score once again.

Then late in the second half, with the Vikes 49-45, CIS MVP Andy Kwiatkowski took control and put a halt to any UVic celebration. Kwiatkowski scored 11 of his team-high 16 in the second half.

Sandy Bisaro led the Vikes with 23 points but his efforts were not enough as UVic went down and out 71-65.

"We were close," Vetrie said. "All the eight teams there on a different night could win a national championship. That's how close it is across the country."

UVic also felt the loss of Canada West rookie of the year Orlando Ferguson, who went down with a groin injury in practice.

The Vikes then moved on to the consolation side and made quick work of the defending national champion St. Francis Xavier X-Men 71-65.

Vetrie said that both teams came out to win, but nevertheless came out a little less than fired up.

"Most consolation games are less than intense," he said. "It's not that same urgency."

Player of the game and honourable mention All-Canadian Keith Bustard led the Vikes with 24 points and 10 rebounds.

The Vikes then suffered a bit of déjà vu as they lost out in the consolation final to the Brandon bobcats. UVic had dropped a game to Brandon the week before at the Canada West Final Four in Alberta.

In the same tournament, UVic defeated the top-ranked and eventual national champion Alberta Golden Bears for their berth into the national champions.

Vetrie said the upset victory didn't come as a shock to his team.

"We were not surprised," he said. "Probably a lot of other people were, but we weren't.

"We always expect to win."

The return of... Intramural Stats

Ultimate

Sat. Residence

	GP	W	L	T	P
Wilson	4	4	0	0	12
JC Res Kidz	4	3	1	0	10
Ravenhos	3	2	1	0	7
Hugh Stephens	4	1	3	0	6
Shirley Baker	3	1	2	0	5
SAC	3	1	2	0	5
Carmeken	3	1	2	0	5
Sanderson	2	0	2	0	2

Tues. Recreation

	GP	W	L	T	P
The C-Train	7	6	1	0	19
Natural Chillers	7	4	3	0	15
Ultimizers	7	4	3	0	15
Ultimaniacs	7	4	3	0	15
Action Jackson	6	4	2	0	14
Ultimate Man	6	4	2	0	14
Not Bad, You?	7	3	4	0	13
Porn Stars	7	3	4	0	13
Super Happy	7	3	4	0	13
S.S. Coop	6	3	3	0	12
Disc Drive	6	1	5	0	8
Singles	6	1	5	0	8

Tues. Comp B

	GP	W	L	T	P
Fear of Commit	8	8	0	0	24
Huck It Long	8	5	2	1	19
Flicks Ahoy	8	5	3	0	18
Singles	8	4	4	0	16
Grass Brutes	7	4	2	1	16
Fellowship Disc	7	3	2	2	15
Baracuda	8	3	5	0	14
Dawgs	7	3	4	0	13
Disc Dogs	6	3	3	0	12
Pick This	7	2	5	0	11
Lanky	7	2	5	0	11
First Blood	6	2	4	0	10
Wrong League	7	1	6	0	9

Thurs. Comp A

	GP	W	L	T	P
Free Range	3	3	0	0	9
Muscle Street	3	2	1	0	7
Blueballs	3	1	2	0	5
Dead Recess	3	1	2	0	5
Backdraft	3	0	3	0	3

Thurs. Recreational

	GP	W	L	T	P
Bolivia Bound	6	5	1	0	16
Wound Gazelles	5	4	1	0	13
Will Call Later	4	3	1	0	10
Hold the Mayo	4	3	1	0	10
Scooby Doobies	4	2	2	0	8
Thundercats	4	2	2	0	8
Ultimatum	4	2	2	0	8
Strike Teachers	4	1	3	0	6
Road Beavers	3	2	1	0	7
Lay Shite Out	3	2	1	0	7
Tron	4	0	4	0	4

Softball

	GP	W	L	T	P
Golden Gloves	2	2	0	0	6
Singles I	2	2	0	0	6
Dwiss	2	2	0	0	6
Paul	2	2	0	0	6
Takin' It Easy	2	2	0	0	6
Pacific and Asia	2	1	1	0	4
Leslie	2	1	1	0	4
Isotopes	2	0	2	0	2
5th Undergrads	2	0	2	0	2
Buttercream	2	0	2	0	2
Singles II	2	0	2	0	2
Law Lords	1	0	1	0	1

Indoor Soccer

Tues.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Life's Too Short	5	4	0	1	14
WL United	5	4	0	1	14
Singles II	5	3	1	1	12
5th Undergrads	4	4	0	0	12
Singles I	5	3	2	0	11
Cuddly Cannon	5	2	3	0	9
Machine	5	1	3	1	8
Liquor Pigs	4	1	3	0	6
Shark Sandwick	4	1	3	0	6
Free Morpheme	4	0	4	0	4
KA Blasters	2	0	2	0	2

Wed.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Kickers	5	0	0	0	15
Bringing It In	5	1	1	0	13
Gaļskap	5	1	1	0	13
Singles I	5	2	3	1	8
Singles III	4	2	2	0	8
Seos Uto	3	1	1	0	7
Matthew	4	2	2	1	7
Barking Spiders	5	4	4	0	7
AP3	3	1	1	0	7
Singles II	5	5	5	0	5
Shane	1	0	1	0	1

Volleyball

Mon.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Just Add Sand	10	8	2	0	26
Bump 'n Grind	10	6	4	0	22
Spring Loaded	8	7	1	0	22
Mellow Meats	10	5	5	0	20
Wet Willy	9	5	4	0	19
Total Chaos	8	5	3	0	18
Freshmeat	8	5	3	0	18
Delirious Six	10	3	7	0	16
The Smurfs	8	3	5	0	14
Sizzling Pickles	8	2	6	0	12
Justin	8	1	7	0	10

Wed.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Commerce	12	11	1	0	34
Sultans Swing	8	7	1	0	22
Vert Challenged	9	6	3	0	21
Slugs	8	6	2	0	20
Delirious Six	10	5	5	0	20
Spiked Punch	10	5	5	0	20
B Singles II	11	4	7	0	19
Ball Smackers	8	5	3	0	18
Lost in Space	8	5	3	0	18
Crazy Fob's	6	5	1	0	16
U Con	8	4	4	0	16
B Singles I	8	4	4	0	16
Law Lords I	8	4	4	0	16
Seos	8	3	5	0	14
Cookie Monster	8	3	5	0	14
Law Lords II	8	2	6	0	12
Rec Singles	9	1	8	0	11
Nice Set	8	1	7	0	10
Elp!	8	0	8	0	8

Thurs.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Untouchables	10	8	2	0	26
Arm and Ham	10	7	3	0	24
Kaley	10	7	3	0	24
Can You Dig?	10	6	4	0	22
Owen	10	6	4	0	22
Mulletude	12	5	7	0	22
Valley Girls	12	4	8	0	20
Benjamin	12	4	8	0	20
Impact	12	4	8	0	20
Singles I	10	3	7	0	16
X-Changers	10	1	9	0	12

photo by Graham Winterbottom

Yeah, we here at *the Martlet* realise this photo is nearly two weeks old. We also realise it has nothing to do with intramurals. So what? The capture moment came up in the Vikes' 81-9 drubbing of the Brit Lions at Wallace Field on March 9. We liked the picture. We thought it was cool. We put it in. Ha.

Outdoor Soccer

Sun.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Elpi A	4	4	0	0	12
Soccer Sods	4	4	0	0	12
Cael	5	3	1	1	12
Fab Terrors	4	3	1	0	10
Singles United	4	3	1	0	10
Seos United	4	3	1	0	10
Team DC	4	2	0	2	10
Law Lordz	3	3	0	0	9
Baby Assassins	4	2	2	0	8
Boogie Junkies	4	2	2	0	8
Giver Dunion	4	1	2	1	7
Revenge Styles	4	1	2	1	7
Kangaroos	4	1	2	1	7
Stronzi	3	2	1	0	7
Randoms	4	0	2	2	6
WL United	4	0	2	2	6
Elpi B	3	1	1	1	6
Bling Bling	4	1	3	0	6
Prisoners Love	4	1	3	0	6
Singles II	4	1	3	0	6
Selects	4	1	3	0	6
Wowzowski	5	0	5	0	5
Darryl	2	1	1	0	4
Singles III	3	1	2	0	4
Singles I	4	0	4	0	4

Tues.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Ultimate Singles	5	4	0	1	14
Singles	5	3	2	0	10
Law	5	1	3	1	8
Cryptic Parrots	5	1	4	0	7

Field Hockey

	GP	W	L	T	P
Prostars	5	4	0	1	14
Team Canada	4	3	1	0	10
Crickets	5	2	3	0	9
Grasshoppers	5	1	4	0	7
Killer Smurfs	4	0	3	1	5

Ice Hockey

Wed.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Smugs	4	2	1	1	9
Gyrating Ants	4	2	1	1	9
A-Team	5	1	3	1	8
Beg's Blades	3	2	1	0	7
Wilson	3	2	1	0	7
Vipers	4	1	3	0	6
Singles	4	1	3	0	6
Puck Off	2	1	1	0	4

Sun.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Force	6	6	0	0	18
Goonies	5	5	0	0	15
Playboys	6	4	1	1	15
Team Fairplay	5	4	1	0	13
Lipsplitters	6	3	3	0	12
Ghettobooty	6	2	3	1	11
Reservoir Dogs	6	2	4	0	10
Begbie Blades	5	2	3	0	9
Red Army	6	1	4	1	9
Fireball	6	0	5	1	7
Singles	5	0	5	0	5

Inline Hockey

Mon.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Canadiens	6	6	0	0	18
Bench Warmers	6	5	1	0	16
The Zygots	6	4	2	0	14
Brocket Rockets	5	4	1	0	13
Law Lords	6	3	3	0	12
Dirty Dan's	6	3	3	0	12
Ballers	5	3	2	0	11
Wounded G's	5	3	2	0	11
Evo	5	2	3	0	9
Sharp Shooter	5	2	3	0	9
Hit for Brains	5	2	3	0	9
Singles	5	1	4	0	7
Singles II	5	1	4	0	7

Ball Hockey

Wed.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Brocket Rockets	5	5	0	0	15
The Habs	5	5	0	0	15
Ranch	5	4	1	0	13
Nufan	5	3	1	1	12
Strange Bruisers	5	3	1	1	12
Underground	5	3	2	0	11
Little Snatchers	5	2	3	0	9
Highly Recruited	5	2	3	0	9
Singles I	5	2	3	0	9
Singles II	5	2	3	0	9
Aardvarks	5	1	4	0	7
Soundcheck	5	0	5	0	5

Thurs.

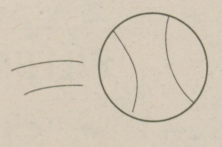
	GP	W	L	T	P
Absolute Chem	4	4	0	0	12
Headhunters	4	4	0	0	12
Keep it Up	5	3	2	0	11
Duncan Boyz	5	3	2	0	11
Desi Dynamite	5	3	2	0	11
Hoagies	4	1	3	0	6
Law Lords	5	0	5	0	5
Singles	4	0	4	0	4

Flag Football

Mon.

	GP	W	L	T	P
Adams Project II	5	4	0	1	14
Flagettes	5	3	1	1	12
Campus Secure	5	2	0	3	12
Rodney	5	3	2	0	11
VIB	5	2	1	2	11
Da Bears	5	2	2	1	10
Fellowship Pigs	5	2	3	0	9
Law Lords	5	1	3	1	8
Trojans	5	0	2	3	8
AJ Assassins	4	0	4	0	4

sports sports sports sports sports sports sports



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EVEN MORE LETTERS

Why I'm contesting the recent BOG and Senate elections

Recently, I learned that Gordon Campbell had axed a couple of progressive members from UVic's Board of Governors and appointed five of his buddies in their place. Given Gordo's cruel bludgeoning of our civil society and his vicious environmental onslaught, I was sure that this didn't bode well for students. It was on the same day that I discovered that there were two elected student positions on the BOG and the cut-off for nominations was that same afternoon. So I rushed around, got my three nomination signatures, wrote a bio and platform and submitted my candidacy for one of the positions.

I thought that sitting on the BOG might offer me the opportunity to forward two issues that I've been working on at UVic this year – two most basic environmental issues that the university has been doing its utmost to stonewall. UVic, while spouting rhetoric that universities should be at the forefront of society, driving the sustainability principles and environmental changes that everyone wants to see, continues with the archaic practice of spewing toxic pesticides around campus and has done nothing to develop ethical purchasing policies for its massive annual expenditures. Having worked for two decades as a silviculturist in what's left of the forests of B.C., it is profoundly disturbing to know that the university buys semi-truckloads of Weyerhaeuser product every year. I know first-hand what Weyerhaeuser and ilk are doing to our forests.

I worked hard on the campaign and spoke to thousands of students all over campus, raising these issues and others. The last thing on my mind was to be concerned that the electoral process itself could be flawed. Perhaps in this day and age of serious electoral scams, I should have been more suspicious. It's now known that George W. Bush actually lost the recent American election and is now rampaging wildly all over the planet. Gordo himself, winning only 58 per cent of the 60 per cent of eligible voters who voted, is now firmly ensconced with 97 per cent of the seats in government. Both of these megalomaniacs got power through a corrupted electoral process and were bought by the giant corporations who financed their campaigns. And then there's Zimbabwe!

It is unacceptable that the university ran out of BOG and Senate ballots after one day of the three day voting period and refused to print up more. It is unacceptable that no scrutinizing procedure was developed for observing the ballot counting process, or that a single ballot-counter was appointed. And it is unacceptable that there was no written document detailing the electoral process chosen by the university. These are all fundamental requirements for a fair democratic process. For these reasons I've demanded that the university should declare the results null and void and must conduct another election.

Sure, sitting in the BOG with all the Gordosaurs would probably be an utterly soul-destroying experience and its unlikely that two elected students can have much effect on such imaginative BOG initiatives like doubling tuition fees and the parking-lot and golf course management vision for our campus. Nevertheless, it shows the depth of the university's disrespect for students that this election was conducted in such a careless and incompetent manner.

Ingmar Lee

Chemicals: choose your poison wisely

Thanks for providing my Chem 300/400 classes with three interesting articles in the Feb. 28 issue. I give you an "A" for the diet supplement article – you presented the data fairly and accurately. The same cannot be said for the "Pesticides pose health hazard" article.

Roundup and Malathion are two of the safest pesticides out there – Roundup for plants, Malathion for bugs. The latter is indeed an organophosphate, a "nerve gas" type poison, but surely that is the point. One is trying to kill the insect – not much point in having an insect killer that does not kill the insect. The point missed however, in that although Malathion is a potent insect killer, the dose to kill a human is quite large, more than 100g, and it degrades very quickly in the environment, and even faster if consumed, so does not accumulate in us, or anywhere else much. The chance of coming across enough of it to produce health effects, birth defects etc. is thus extremely small. Roundup is even less toxic to humans, probably half a kilogram would be required to kill, and it breaks down outside equally fast. If you are going to worry about something, probably alcohol and the chemicals present in coffee, tobacco and peanut butter are much more significant health risks, than the tiny amounts of pesticide you may meet. Of course we can elect not to kill off pests, but certainly in my garden, without a little dissuasion, weeds flourish. I am not sure whether my grass is native or not, certainly its been here for generations, hey, but either way the weeds still grow in it. Perhaps the weeds are native.

The third article on "sex-toys" was certainly fascinating. A plastic like PVC is hard (plastic pipes). To make PVC soft for use in car seats, "synthetic leather", flexible clear tubing, toys, etc. the molecules need to slide over each other and a lubricant/softener (plasticizer) is added. Dioctyl and dinonyl phthalates are the most common. The chemical makeup of a phthalate is somewhat similar to a fat or oil, which are esters, and phthalates are not particularly toxic if you happen to ingest some, though I point out that most of us do not go around chewing on garden hose. Nevertheless, phthalates do squeeze out of soft PVC, and so small amounts of phthalates are found in everyone's blood. Clearly, baby toys, which do get sucked and chewed, would best be made of something other than softened PVC. Whether sex toys present a significant risk, unless you are into sucking and chewing on those too, is much more debatable. Estrogenic activity (perhaps one millionth that of estradiol, the female estrogenic hormone) is probably not that significant, considering where the toys normally are inserted. Hey, but if you're still worried, then splurge and go for the silicone types, though some would argue that silicones (breast implants) have some of their own worries. Nonoxynol-9, the spermicide – yes it is meant to kill sperm – and though some females might disagree, sperm is human tissue(!) – so perhaps one should not be surprised that it might irritate some people. Perhaps of more concern, at least to young boys, should be its estrogenic activity and the fact that it and relatives are used in some "two-in-one" shampoos - it is a detergent – that is how it kills sperm, and probably why for some it irritates (to use *the Martlet's* words) "pussy".

In summary, use of chemicals has risks and benefits. I like coffee, but every cup of coffee has 10 mg of proven rat carcinogens. Even though I know this, I still drink coffee; I accept the risk; most of us do the same for alcohol, some of us do for smoking, eating peanut butter, etc, etc. Life is full of risks, including the use of sex toys, pesticides and energy boosters. You can not always choose which to live with, e.g. if somebody else smokes near you, if UVic uses pesticide close to you. . . . However, before you get too excited, be aware that many of these involuntary risks are much smaller than those we opt into.

Reg Mitchell, chemistry professor

BILLBOARDS

ON CAMPUS

End of year party! March 22 from 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. with musical guests The Swingin' Bachelors, Kumbia (salsa), Kia (hip-hop), Retrograde (alternative) and The Special Guests. Also Top 40s and Electronica djs. Swing dance lessons at 9 p.m. Tix $5 grads, $15 everyone else, available at the SUB Info Booth.

Groovefest 2002 – get ready to celebrate diversity through the creative arts! Groovefest is **March 23** in Vertigo Nightclub, doors open at 9 p.m. Advance tickets are $10 (more at the door) available at Lyle's Place and the UVSS Info Booth. Buy your tickets early to avoid disappointment and come celebrate!

Banana Split Fundraiser! Support UNICEF. **Mon. and Tues., March 25 and 26,** from 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Michèle Pujol Rm. in the SUB. Celebrate the end of the year with an early taste of summer. $2 each or by greater donation.

OFF CAMPUS

Earthmonkey Entertainment presents "Revolution" on **Fri., March 22,** at Hush – 1325 Government. Cover $6 before 10 p.m./$8 thereafter. Deejays Czech and Grooverobber. Visit www.earthmonkey.net for more info.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Doing an English major or honours program at UVic? Planning to? Check out web.uvic.ca/pwengl

Join the Urban Sustainability/ Permaculture Bike Tour of Victoria on **April 14.** Call Julie at 598-6349.

Income Tax Services For Students $20/return, $5/filing fee. Located in Cadboro Bay Village; pick-up/drop-off available; call Campbell at 598-9289.

I need a home! I am a nice female black cat named Neko. I don't have fleas and have a flea collar. I am fixed and have had my shots. I am healthy. I am three. I come with my very own litter box and feeding bowl. You are a nice human who likes cats. Please call Kevin, my human, at 370-2587.

Human Rights Observer training for Chiapas, Mexico. Easter weekend retreat **(March 31-April 1).** Intensive orientation facilitated by experienced observers and facilitators. Call 384-7843 for further info. Now accepting applicants; Spanish not necessary.

A major research company is currently conducting a study talking to people who are residents of or visit UVic on a daily basis. If you qualify, we would like to invite you to participate in a short telephone interview. All qualified participants will be offered financial compensation for their time and effort. If you are interested, please contact Nancy at 1-800-924-2063 – reference # 082301.

VOLUNTEERS

Become a Vic High mentor. Help youth-at-risk stay in school, gain self-esteem and become more positively involved in their community. Contact Mary Lynn at 381-2365 for more info.

Need a warm fuzzy feeling? Add to your t-shirt collection – volunteer for Orientation! www.uvic.ca/orientation

EMPLOYMENT

www.cougarsafe.com could help keep those BIG CATS off your back! Pounce on a territory!

Teach English Overseas. Do you have the travel bug? Would you like to travel and teach English to non-native speakers of English? Camosun College offers a 6-week, full-time intensive TEFL program in May/June and July/August. Find out more at a FREE evening information session **Wed., April 3,** at Fisher Building, Rm. 100, Lansdowne Campus. Registering for the info session guarantees you a seat. Call 592-1556 or 370-3841 and quote course code 2002Q3 TEFL 990V (FREE). Or register online at www.camosun.bc.

Summer jobs!! Painters needed for summer jobs. Work outside! Get a great tan! Our painters make good money and only work four days a week. Apply by letter to: timhillpainting@hotmail.com

Interested in teaching children English in Korea for a year? You need a university degree or be in your final semester to apply. $2200 CAD, 30 hours a week, free airfare and housing. For full details email me at ian@drskorea.com

Summer camp staff wanted: child-care and rec staff. Camp for ADD/LD children in NE Pennsylvania. **June 22 to Aug. 18** – many Canadian staff. Camp pays a stipend in US $, plus travel allowance, working visa, health ins. and room & board. Local interviews, call Bob at 385-5277 or email summit_bc@hotmail.com, or visit us at www.summitcamp.com

Travel – teach English: job guaranteed. Make great $$. 5 day/40hr (**May 1-5** or online/correspondence) TESOL Teacher cert./license. Respected worldwide, government accredited. 1000s of jobs. FREE info pack 1-888-270-2941 www.canadianglobal.net.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Montreal sublet available May 1 to Aug. 31 or any portion of that time. Very large fully furnished one bedroom on quiet street in student quarter near McGill. $700/month all-inclusive. Email zoekreye@hotmail.com or phone 598-8791 in Victoria.

Summer sublet for a bright bedroom in a two bedroom apartment. Close to downtown and the major bus routes. Spacious, bright apartment. Friendly roommate. Fully furnished, storage and bike locker. Available **May 1 to August 31.** $325 plus utilities, phone; internet and cable optional. Call 381-9092.

Summer sublet! Fully furnished one bedroom apartment. Close to major bus routes and a 15 minute walk to UVic. One block from Safeway and Mall. No smoking or pets. Parking and cable available. Utilities not included. $400/month. Call 472-6467.

TUTORS

ESL: proofreading and tutoring. 595-5940 or email woods@ampsc.com

WANTED

Wanted: used planting shovel, please call 386-6447.

FOR SALE

NordicTrack's Walkfit 5000 Manual Treadmill and upper body workout. $850 new – sell for $300. NordicTrack ski machine $750 new – sell for $250/or $500 for both. 653-3161.

Discount tires and auto repairs. Guaranteed tires from $10. 383-1050.

HEY YOU

Did you accidentally hit my blue car in the McKinnon parking lot on **Sunday, March 10?** If you did, maybe you'd like to help me out with paying for the damage. I understand you might not be able to afford it, but honestly, neither can I. Please email me: mandabear46@hotmail.com

Prisoner seeks pen pal. I'm a single male, serving a very long time in a US prison. I would like to find anyone (any age/sex/race/nationality) who would like to exchange mail, smiles, and hope with me, hopefully developing into a long-term friendship. I'll answer all! Danny Glen Bowen, #C-20552; P.V.S.P. C3-232; PO Box 8503; Coalinga, California 93210-8503.

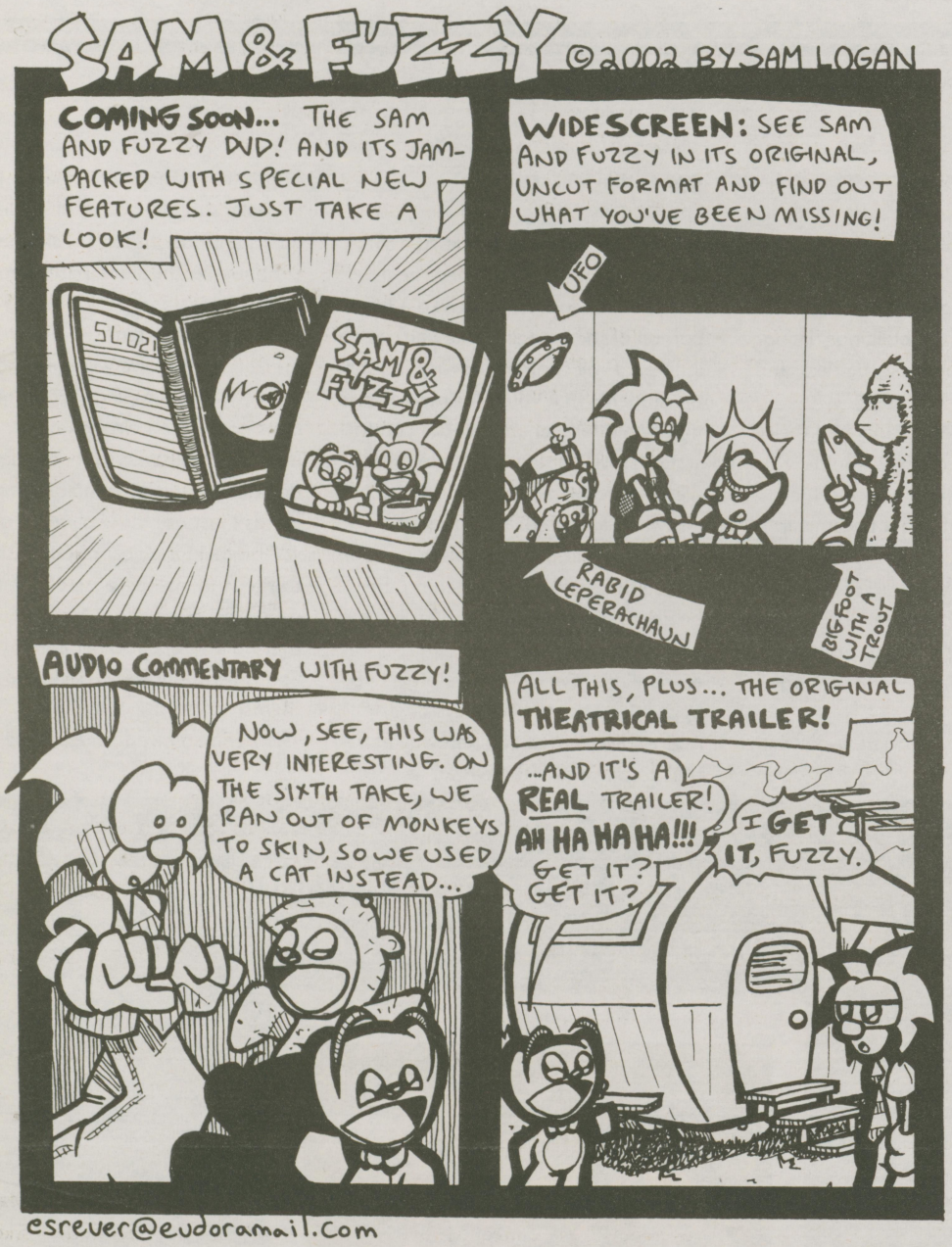
Saw you at Orientation last year – want to see you again. orient@uvic.ca

Happy Birthday Mark! Let the bubbly flow, love Sho.

BILLBOARD RATES

students & clubs	$2/issue
non-students	$2/line
businesses	$5.50/3 lines + $2/extra line
hey you!	$1/issue

comics


SAM & FUZZY ©2002 BY SAM LOGAN
COMING SOON... THE SAM AND FUZZY DVD! AND ITS JAM-PACKED WITH SPECIAL NEW FEATURES. JUST TAKE A LOOK!
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SAM & FUZZY
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UFO
RABID LEPERACHAUN
BIGFOOT WITH A TROUT
AUDIO COMMENTARY WITH FUZZY!
NOW, SEE, THIS WAS VERY INTERESTING. ON THE SIXTH TAKE, WE RAN OUT OF MONKEYS TO SKIN, SO WE USED A CAT INSTEAD...
ALL THIS, PLUS... THE ORIGINAL THEATRICAL TRAILER!
..AND IT'S A REAL TRAILER! AH HA HA HA!!! GET IT? GET IT?
I GET IT, FUZZY.

esrever@eudoramail.com

THE NOT-SO-FRESH PRINCE of BEL-AIR
YO G, YOU EVER HAVE THOSE LESS THAN FRESH DAYS?
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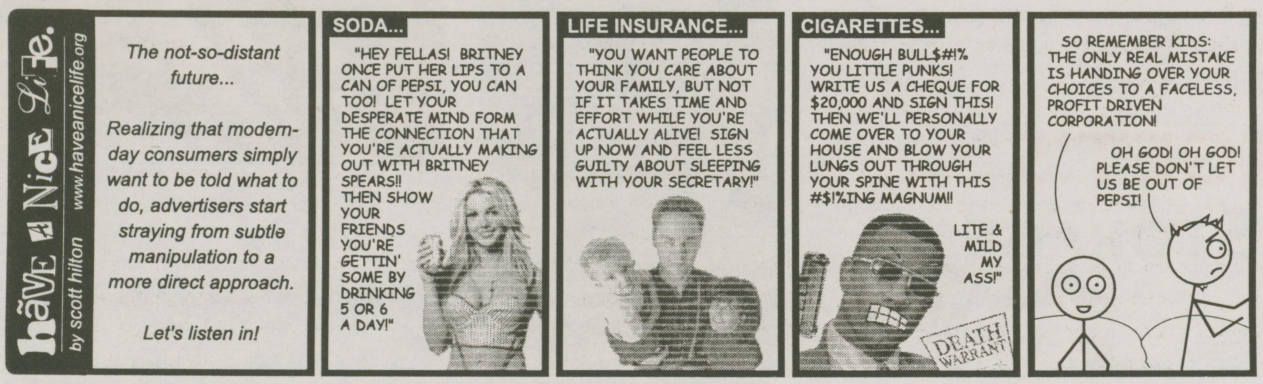
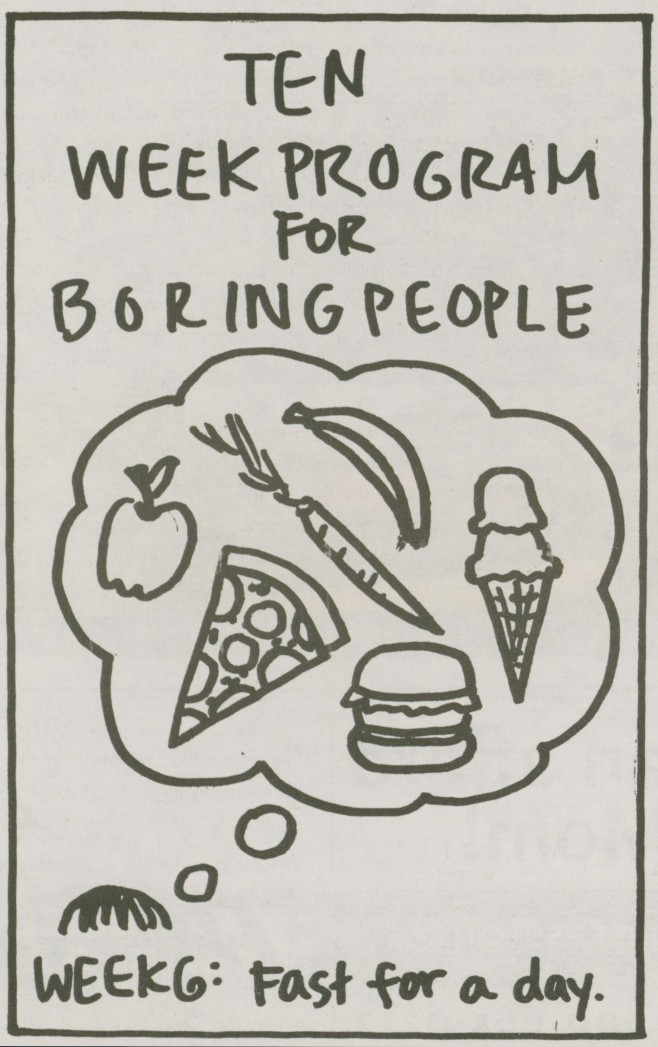
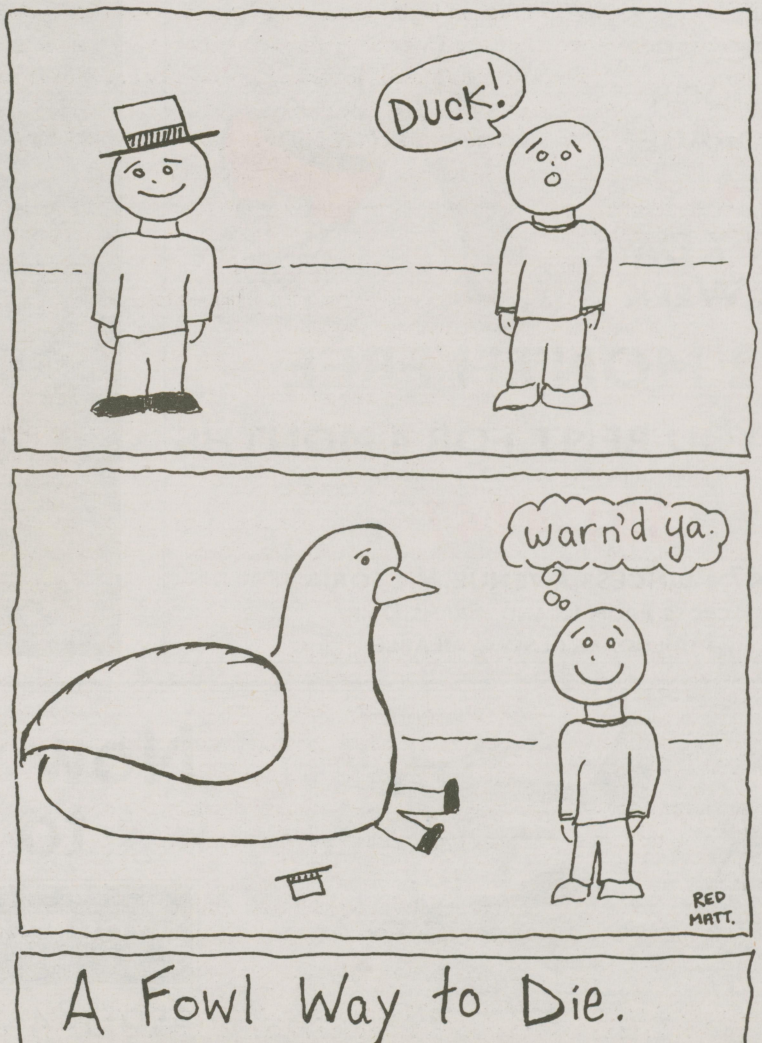

have a Nice Life.
by scott hilton www.haveanicelife.org
The not-so-distant future...
Realizing that modern-day consumers simply want to be told what to do, advertisers start straying from subtle manipulation to a more direct approach.
Let's listen in!
SODA...
"HEY FELLAS! BRITNEY ONCE PUT HER LIPS TO A CAN OF PEPSI, YOU CAN TOO! LET YOUR DESPERATE MIND FORM THE CONNECTION THAT YOU'RE ACTUALLY MAKING OUT WITH BRITNEY SPEARS!! THEN SHOW YOUR FRIENDS YOU'RE GETTIN' SOME BY DRINKING 5 OR 6 A DAY!"
LIFE INSURANCE...
"YOU WANT PEOPLE TO THINK YOU CARE ABOUT YOUR FAMILY, BUT NOT IF IT TAKES TIME AND EFFORT WHILE YOU'RE ACTUALLY ALIVE! SIGN UP NOW AND FEEL LESS GUILTY ABOUT SLEEPING WITH YOUR SECRETARY!"
CIGARETTES...
"ENOUGH BULL$#!% YOU LITTLE PUNKS! WRITE US A CHEQUE FOR $20,000 AND SIGN THIS! THEN WE'LL PERSONALLY COME OVER TO YOUR HOUSE AND BLOW YOUR LUNGS OUT THROUGH YOUR SPINE WITH THIS #$!%ING MAGNUM!!
LITE & MILD MY ASS!"
DEATH WARRANT
SO REMEMBER KIDS: THE ONLY REAL MISTAKE IS HANDING OVER YOUR CHOICES TO A FACELESS, PROFIT DRIVEN CORPORATION!
OH GOD! OH GOD! PLEASE DON'T LET US BE OUT OF PEPSI!





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EVEN MORE LETTERS

Questioning statistical analysis

Wading into gender debates is not my favourite pastime but when I read "Men more oppressed" in the March 14 *Martlet,* I was compelled to respond. Annoyed with the editorial March 7 ["International Women's Day still necessary"] (I thought it was weak and apologetic), I was frightened by what Sébastien Markley wrote.

Markley showed a blatant disregard and lack of appreciation for the difference between sexual violence and aggravated assault. His numbers from Stats Canada (1998) show there were 1376 sexual and 50,434 non-sexual assaults against men in a given year compared to 7570 sexual and42,959 non-sexual assaults against women. Compare the ratios and then consider that more sexual assaults against women go unreported due to their domestic nature. Sexual assault is a violent crime associated with power and control, not sex. And its consequences are severe and long-lasting and that is why I am afraid of walking alone to my car after dark. Someone can steal my wallet, my car, my household items, or anything material, and if they have to, they can kick or punch me and I'll survive, but sexual assault?

Another area of concern is Markley's assertion that suicide should be considered a gender issue. True, men are more successful at committing suicide, but did he look at attempted suicide? What about the issues surrounding the reporting of suicides? Interpreting raw statistics is a dangerous game, especially if you are not well informed about the issues, how stats are gathered in relation to the issue, or how they are reported.

I agree with Markley that perhaps *Martlet* staff could investigate violence and suicide in society in an attempt to give "information more reflective of the complexity of issues out there."

Erica Husser

Point of clarification

This is to answer the questions of my adoring fans.

The go-carts: To answer the "pesky transit bus" problem, I suggest holding the races at 1 a.m. (which no one bothered to ask me when the last article went to print). As far as how to afford it – although I disagree with corporate sponsorship of academic institutions, I see nothing wrong with corporations sponsoring social events. So why not knock up the Pepsi-Cola Company, Molson Canadian or Telus for a little corporate cash? They already make money off of us, why not take a little back and have a good time?

The idea of the event would be to hold something that is not academic, not political and just plain fun. Something that hopefully a great many students would find at least mildly interesting and would come out to witness. It was also suggested that the race veer off Ring-Road and race around some of the buildings (lining the path with haystacks, barriers, and artificial lighting of course).

Imagine if every faculty had their own go-cart which they would decorate themselves, selected their own racing team and it became an annual inter-faculty rivalry.

The point is to not accept that university must be dull all the time; push the envelope and try something unusual. Besides, does UBC have go-cart races?

Chuck Wootten

Opposition will stand true

The battle was fought and won, but the war has just begun. The students that voted for me have given me a substantial mandate. I received a large portion of the vote and that will not be ignored. I will continue advocating for the students that voted for me because they voted for a change in the current system. I will continue fighting for the silent majority that is forgotten, pushed away and alienated. The Student Alternative and the Student Opposition will be there next year watching the board. Every mistake, every error, we will be there to hold them accountable. We will be the proactive opposition. There will always be an Andrew McVie or a Lisa Karoway at UVic to make sure there is an opposition during UVSS elections and to make sure the voices of students are heard and fought for. Let the board continue on the same path that it has for the past six years, let them continue the pattern set up by one intricate group. We will fight them all the way. The campaign for democracy does not end on election night; it never ends. Justice, truth, freedom, democracy and accountability are not words I just use for two weeks, they will be fuel for a year of out dedication to the students. Because of what we have won, our victory lies in knowing that no one's political ambitions will flourish without them having to justify themselves to the people.

Lisa Karoway, leader of the Student Opposition

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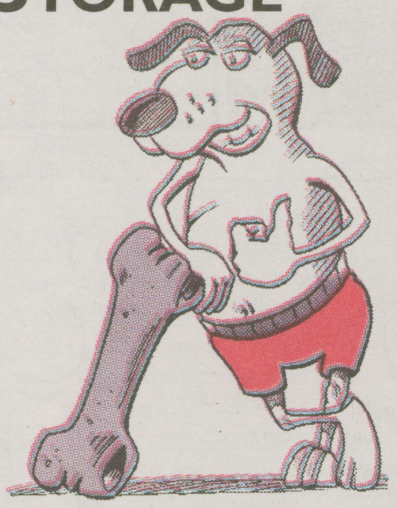

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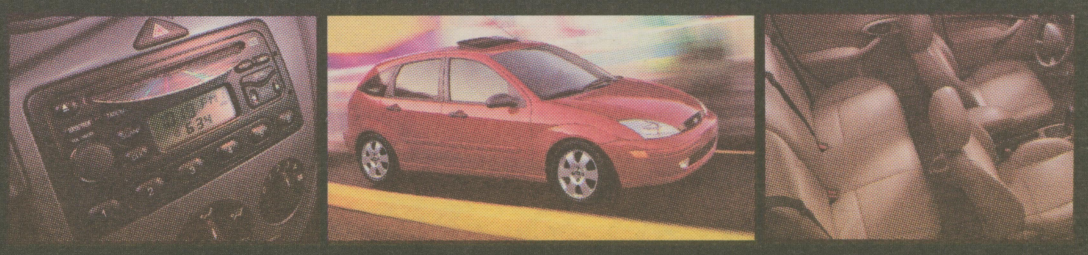

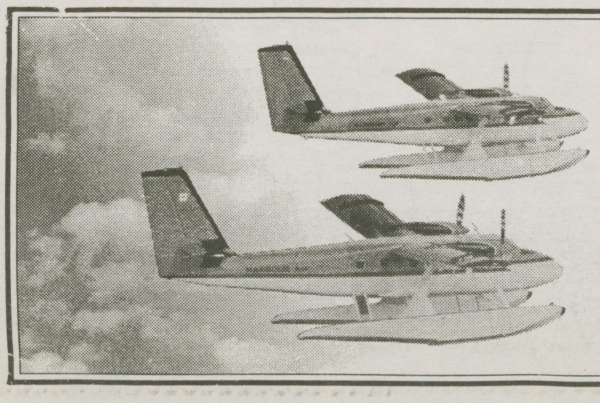

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